

# A bibliographic assessment of T. C. Jerdon's *Illustrations of Indian ornithology* (1843–1847)

Aasheesh Pittie

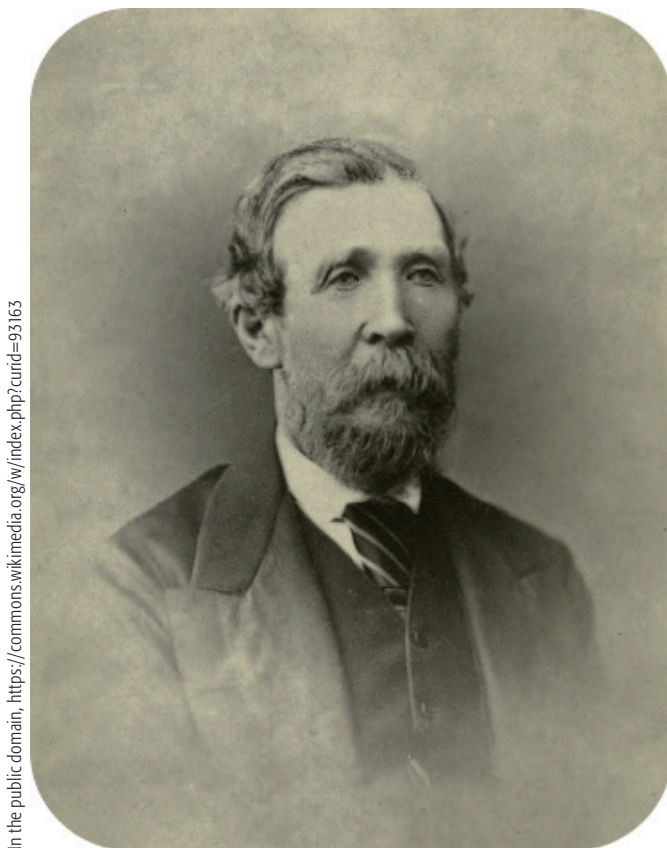
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## Thomas Caverhill Jerdon

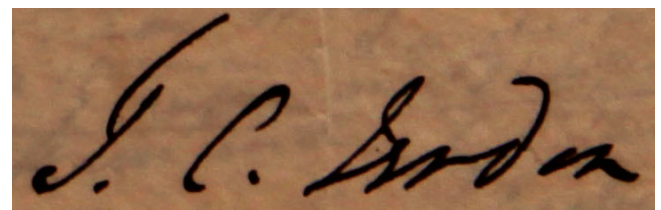
Thomas Caverhill Jerdon (1811–1872) was a Scottish (British) physician, ornithologist, zoologist, and botanist who matriculated in medicine from Edinburgh University in 1833 [36a, b, c]. He joined the Madras Medical Service of the East India Company, and was appointed Assistant Surgeon at Fort St. George, in the Presidency of Madras, on 11 September 1835, arriving in Madras only on 21 February 1836. Thence he proceeded to join British troops in Ganjam (Orissa), sent there to quell an uprising, known as the Gumsur Campaign (1836–1837). On 01 March 1837 he was posted to the 2nd Light Cavalry, joining it at Trichinopoly (=Tiruchirappally), and marching with it to Jalnah (=Jalna) in central India. In July 1841, while on holiday from his regiment, in the Nilgiris, he married Flora Alexandrina Matilda Macleod. In January 1842 he was appointed Civil Surgeon of Nellore, which post he joined in mid-1842. Meanwhile he was placed in charge

of the Government Dispensary at Madras (Elliot 1873; Evans 1909; Knox 2014; Wikipedia 2016). Jerdon retired from service on 28 February 1868 as Surgeon-Major, and was appointed, in 1869, to the honorary position of Retired Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals in Madras (see Knox 2014 for a chronology of Jerdon's career; Sharpe 1906). He remained in India till 1870, having travelled the country widely, and written extensively on South Asian natural history. The eminence he attained in the study of Indian natural history is lauded in Crawford's *Roll of Indian Medical Services* (1930), "he lived and served before the days of decorations" (quoted in Singh 2009). And, in his Sálím Ali Memorial Lecture of 1996, J. C. Daniel (long-time Honorary Secretary of the Bombay Natural History Society) eulogised Jerdon, "As a field naturalist he was not to be equalled till Sálím Ali came on the scene" (Singh 2009).

Even during his initial years in India, Jerdon seems to have pursued his passion for natural history in every spare moment he had from official work. He collected birds wherever he travelled, meticulously observing aspects of their biology. "His early work was done in the Madras Presidency, but he afterwards visited other parts of the Empire, discovered some new species in Sikhim [sic] and again in Assam and Burma, receiving from the Government of India special facilities for travel and collecting" (Sharpe 1906). In the Madras Presidency he befriended, and



36a. Thomas Caverhill Jerdon, the Scottish physician, who spent his entire life studying the fauna, and flora of the Indian Subcontinent.



36b. A facsimile specimen of Jerdon's signature, 'T. C. Jerdon', reproduced from the Jerdon correspondence F337 in the Strickland archive, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.



36c. An example of Jerdon's handwriting on one of his specimen labels (on the left in the photograph) in the collection of The Natural History Museum, UK (Register No. NHMUK 1888.2.20.491).

came to rely upon native Indians, like members of the Yanadi tribe, who collected birds, and their eggs, for him, and perhaps taught him not just their native names, but also shared bird-lore with him. At this time, he had begun his path-breaking serialised paper, 'Catalogue of the birds of peninsula India...' in the *Madras Journal of Literature and Science* (Jerdon 1839a–b; 1840a–d, 1844, 1846a), but had not commenced his magnum opus, *The birds of India* (Jerdon 1862, 1863, 1864)<sup>1</sup>, when he began work on an illustrated work.

### Illustrations of Indian ornithology

T. C. Jerdon, of the "lugubrious visage", and "peripatetic life" (Noltie 2011), had already been in India for nearly eight years when he published the first part of his illustrated work on Indian birds in November 1843<sup>2</sup>, 'during his residence at Nellore' (Elliot 1873). Entitled '*Illustrations of Indian ornithology*' (hereinafter, *Illustrations*), it has become a valuable and scarce rarity in the world of ornithological bibliography, and bibliophily. It achieves this status primarily on four counts: one, it had a small print-run, perhaps 280 in quarto, and an equal number (?) in octavo; two, it comprised two *separate* editions—in quarto, and octavo; three, it existed in several states<sup>3</sup>; and four, it was the first lithographic work, on birds, that showcased the work of native Indian artists<sup>4</sup>, and a native Indian who lithographed, and printed nearly half the plates<sup>5</sup>. Enhancing its rarity, and value, is its mid-nineteenth century vintage; between 1963 and 1993 just eight copies passed through the offices of the natural history book-selling firm of Wheldon & Wesley Ltd., U.K. (1840–2004) (Overstreet 2006; Wheldon & Wesley 1950–2000)<sup>6</sup>.

Here I present bibliographic information on the work, some of which has never been published before.

### Introduction

Between the years 1843 and 1847, Jerdon published his *Illustrations* in four parts<sup>7</sup>, each separately issued<sup>8</sup>, in its own wrappers<sup>9</sup>. This work contained fifty coloured lithographic plates with accompanying letterpress, and was published in two editions: one, in quarto (=4to; 24.5 x 32 cm), "...being more accordant with the usual form and pretension of such publications", (Anon. 1844b), and the other, in octavo (=8vo; 16.5 x 25 cm), "...more handy and easy of reference and with the additional advantage of

being fitted to bind up with the original Catalogue" (ibid.). On the wrappers of the four parts, the work was entitled *Illustrations of Indian ornithology*, but the fourth part had, amongst its preliminary pages, a separate title page to be used with a collated, and bound single volume of all the four parts<sup>10</sup>, to be collectively entitled, *Illustrations of Indian Ornithology, Containing Fifty Figures of New, Unfigured or Interesting Species of Birds, Chiefly from the South of India*.

The following bibliographic descriptions are primarily of the set in my library, composed of two 'volumes' [37], wherein the one comprises Part I in quarto, wrappers in place, and the other, the remaining three Parts (II, III, IV) in octavo, uncut on fore-, and tail-edges, all stitched together, and stained red on the head-edge, with w[1] (for a key to the bibliographic pagination of wrappers see Appendix 2) of Part II forming the front cover, followed by the plates and letterpress, and w[7] of Parts III and IV, bound-in at the end. w[3] and w[4] (so to say), of these three parts, are missing, and w[2] of Part IV's bound-in front wrapper serves as w[4] of this made-up<sup>11</sup> volume. Wherever a comparison with a collated quarto copy is required, I have used the following online version (<http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461>), available in the public domain, on the Biodiversity Heritage Library's website (<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/>).

In the course of my research for this paper, I was able to study two print copies of the work, besides my own. The BNHS-India [earlier known as 'Bombay Natural History Society'] library holds a quarto copy, without wrappers, but with all fifty plates intact; it has been restored, and rebound, but has suffered the ravages of time that gradually befall all books in a humid, coastal city [Call number: 598.26547 JER 5664]. The Asiatic Society of Bombay's library holds a cannibalised, and made-up copy [598.2954 JER/ILL 39860] comprising Parts I, and IV in octavo, and Parts II, and III in quarto<sup>12</sup>. It was rebound back in time, lacks wrappers, is in a very poor condition, and requires immediate restoration.

### Prospectus

The following prospectus, announcing the *Illustrations*, is printed on w[4] of Part I [40a].

"ILLUSTRATIONS OF INDIAN ORNITHOLOGY. | (horizontal bar) | NOW PUBLISHING BY SUBSCRIPTION, | A SERIES OF FIFTY (50) COLOURED, LITHOGRAPHIC DRAWINGS OF | INDIAN BIRDS, | ACCOMPANIED BY DESCRIPTIVE LETTER-PRESS. | (double horizontal bar) | By T. C. JERDON, Esq. | ASSISTANT SURGEON, MADRAS MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT. | (double horizontal bar) | The original Drawings have been executed by *Native Artists* from pencil sketches by the | Author, and under his immediate superintendence. | The subjects will be selected so as to present an agreeable variety, and most of them will | be figured here for the first time. | The Colouring will be finished under the Author's own superintendence. | The Letter-press will contain a full description of the species figured. | *Price to Subscribers—Octavo, 20 Rupees—Quarto, 25 Rupees.* | (horizontal bar)."

1 In Richard Bowdler Sharpe's (1906) words, it "was an epoch-making book, and laid the foundation for the splendid work which was inaugurated by Mr. Hume and his successors".

2 Jerdon's Introductory Notice in Part I, of this work, was dated, 'Nellore: November 3d, 1843' (see Appendix 1).

3 The bibliographic term, 'state' is used to describe the condition 'of illustrations, frontispieces, engraved titles, etc., which may show evidence of wear, alteration, re-engraving in whole or in part, or which may have been produced in alternative forms; ... "an exceptional copy with the plates in two states, plain and coloured"' (Barker & Thadani 2016).

4 Other contemporary works, but on flora, that carried art by Indian artists were by Wallich (1830–1832), and Wight (1843). It is quite possible that Jerdon was encouraged, and inspired by the work of Smith & D'Oyly (1828, 1829), wherein the former drew and coloured the birds, while the latter painted the paler, uncoloured landscape (Losty 1989)—and the success of Gould's (1830–1833) publication—to produce these illustrated volumes.

5 'Properly, plates are whole-sheet illustrations, printed separately from the text' (Barker & Thadani 2016).

6 The Wheldon & Wesley Ltd. card index of approximately 100,000 cards, of books they handled and sold over the years, is now a part of the Smithsonian Libraries, forming an important archive of bibliographical details for old works of natural history (Overstreet 2006).

7 Books published in instalments (Barker & Thadani 2016).

8 The bibliographic term, 'issue' denotes, 'A group of published copies of an impression which constitutes a consciously planned published unit. Distinguishable from other groups of published copies of that impression by one or more differences designed expressly to identify the group as a discrete unit' (Barker & Thadani 2016).

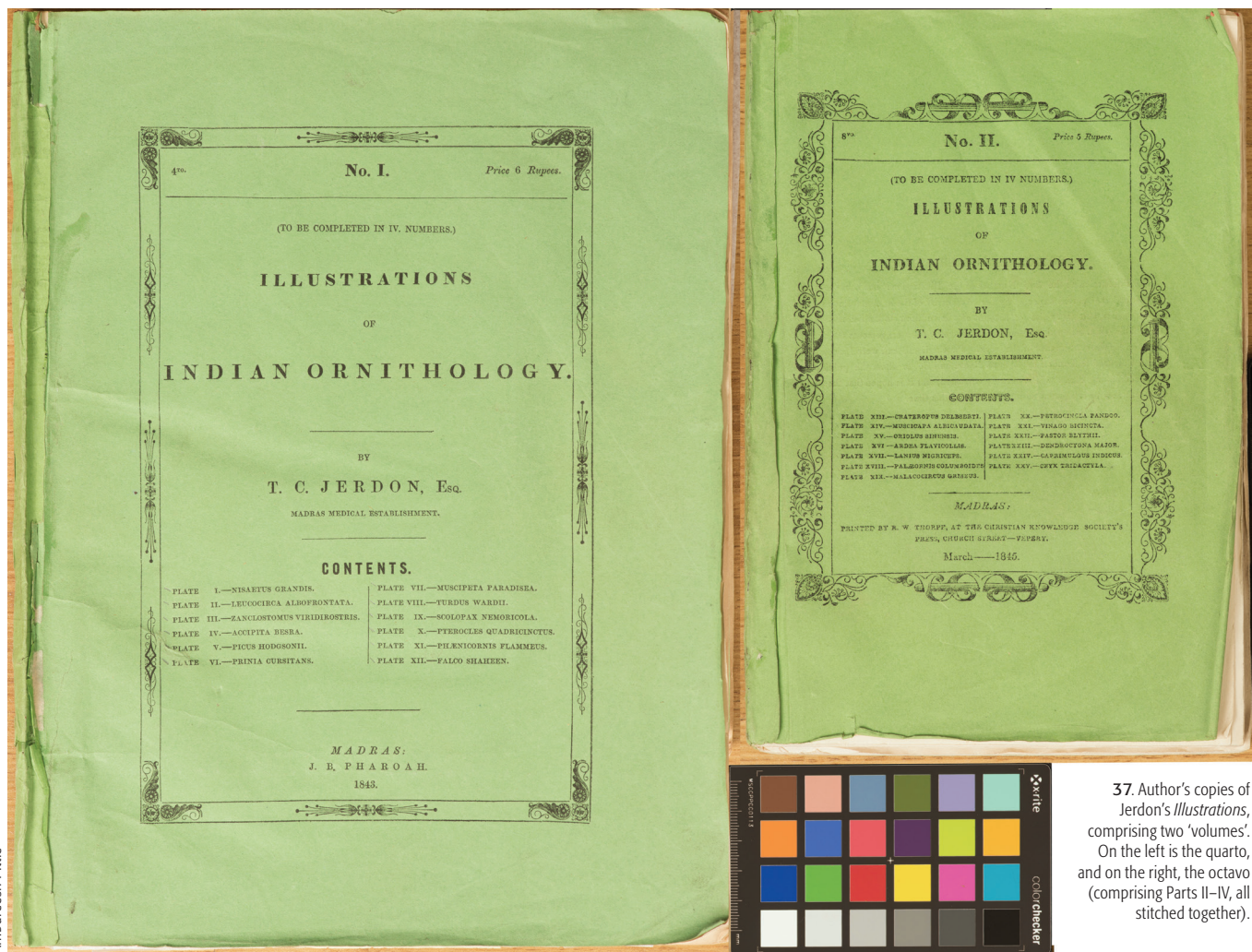
9 'Paper covers, plain, marbled or printed', (Barker & Thadani 2016).

10 Not uncommon at the time.

11 'A made-up copy is one whose imperfections—the lack of a single leaf or more—have been made good from another copy of the same edition' (Barker & Thadani 2016).

12 Plate XXI, along with the letterpress, is missing in this copy.





37. Author's copies of Jerdon's *Illustrations*, comprising two 'volumes'. On the left is the quarto, and on the right, the octavo (comprising Parts II–IV, all stitched together).

## Editions, and re-prints

Jerdon sold the *Illustrations* on subscription<sup>13</sup>. His price to prospective subscribers, for quarto copies, was twenty rupees, and for octavo, twenty-five rupees (see Prospectus quoted earlier). His quarto print run seems to have been fully subscribed pretty quickly, as he noticed on w[4] of Part I itself, "N. B.—Only 8<sup>vo</sup> copies are now procurable, all the 4<sup>to</sup> ones struck off having been subscribed for".

On the same w[4] is a list of 182 subscribers, who generally took out single subscriptions, but several ordered multiple sets (Table 1). However, Jerdon continued soliciting subscriptions as the work progressed, printing lists of subscribers on the w[4] of Parts II, and III (Table 1; Part IV's w[4] was blank), till he reached a total of 250 subscribers. Consequentially, this necessitated the re-printing of, at least, Part I, as evident from the bound-in quarto w[7] in the Tweeddale Library copy (see below), and from his letter to H. E. Strickland [39b]. It is not known, at this point, whether he also re-printed the octavo Part I. Other than this, there is no indubitable evidence that he reprinted the remaining parts (*post* March 1845), in both editions, to meet the demand for the

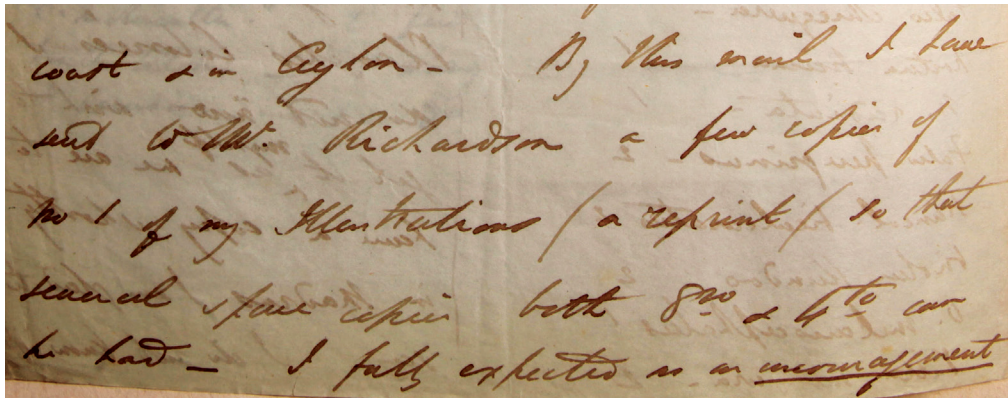
*Illustrations*. Though it seems unlikely that he did, as he could simply have increased the print run, an answer to this will have to await further research.

On 21 March 1844 he wrote (from Nellore<sup>14</sup>, Madras) to Hugh Edwin Strickland<sup>15</sup>, "...I have lately sent home a few copies of a publication I have commenced here on 'Illustrations of Indian Ornithology,' which may be seen at Mr. J. Richardson, Bookseller 23 Cornhill. In it you will find as far as it goes a considerable quantity of matter additional to that contained in my brief Catalogue - ILLEGIBLE of the identifications ILLEGIBLE have arrived at mentioned there. I have got a very respectable list of subscribers for my work ILLEGIBLE 240 now, and have disposed of all the 4<sup>to</sup> copies, & ILLEGIBLE have had so many applications that I intend to print off ILLEGIBLE 50–100 more 4<sup>to</sup> copies. The inferior quality of the printing paper is very annoying, but I think it is a fine specimen of what may be done here. To hasten the work I have by this mail written to Mr. Lowell Reeve and requested him to lithograph print & colour ILLEGIBLE 4 of the plates for one of the ensuing numbers including ILLEGIBLE them finished here up to the quality of those in the first number. Should you be in London I would feel really obliged if you would

<sup>13</sup> "In the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries... expensive books, privately printed books, special copies... or even the whole edition would sometimes be issued *on subscription*. Subscribers who responded to the preliminary proposal might be asked to pay part of the price in advance... and in many cases their names would be printed, in a list of subscribers..." (Barker & Thadani 2016).

<sup>14</sup> Recorded incorrectly as 'Vellore' by Rookmaaker (2010: 215).

<sup>15</sup> Rookmaaker (2010) catalogued summaries of this correspondence, which led me to the originals archived at the Cambridge University, UK (Michael Brooke, *in litt.*, e-mails dated 31 May, 30 June, and 06 July 2016).



38. An extract from Jerdon's letter to H. E. Strickland, dated 09 May 1845. For a transcription, please see text. [Jerdon correspondence F344 in Strickland archive, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.]

inspect the drawings & point out any errors. Five of the birds are from the north of India sent me by Mr. Blyth for the purpose of being figured," (Jerdon correspondence F337 in Strickland archive, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.)

In another letter (15 April 1845, Nellore,<sup>16</sup> Madras) he informed Strickland that "...I have sent by the steamer 40 copies of No. 2 of my *Illust. Ind. Orn.* ILLEGIBLE ..." (Jerdon correspondence F342 in Strickland archive, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge). w[7] of Part II has a print date of March 1845.

Two months later he wrote Strickland a third time (09 May 1845, Nellore<sup>17</sup>, Madras), informing that "By this mail I have sent to Mr. Richardson a few copies of No 1 of my *Illustrations* / a reprint / so that several spare copies of both 8<sup>vo</sup> & 4<sup>to</sup> can be had. I fully expected as an encouragement that Sir W. Jardine who has a copy would have reviewed the work in the ILLEGIBLE he has not done so. I think it would be better to send a copy to the Publisher for Review. If you think so I will feel obliged by you asking Richardson, 23 Cornhill, to do so. I have sent several additional plates to Messrs Reeve & Son whom I requested to show the drawings to you before lithographing them..." (Jerdon correspondence F344 in Strickland archive, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge) [38].

Direct evidence of an increased print run is present in his 'Introductory notice' to the work, wherein Jerdon wrote, "Thirty additional copies of these plates being afterwards found necessary to meet the increasing list of Subscribers..."

There is also evidence that subscribers, or those who purchased quarto copies, did not get the entire set in quarto, a case in point being the Marchioness of Tweeddale<sup>18</sup>, who subscribed two sets (Table 1), but seemed not to have received them in that state. Norman B. Kinnear's note below, illustrates the confusion.

"Mr. Jerdon's work was published in two forms 4to and 8vo, not reprints on different sized paper, but two separate editions as seen in the parts now bound together. The 4to Edition as first published was

procured from the London publisher or agent and when completed the 3 remaining parts were sent for to the same London publisher who this time sent the 8vo copy – and when requesting him either to take back the 1st 4to part, and supply pt. 1 8vo. or to supply the 3 last parts 4to. taking back the 8vos, he declined to do either 'they were sold and must be kept and 8vo. pt. 1 could be got at ordinary prices', in the hands therefore of a personage [sic] so very accommodating there was no alternative but to bind up the two editions which we do not now regret as it points out the [Illegible] in which the work appeared."

[Note presented by N. B. Kinnear Esq., December, 1949; Courtesy of the Natural History Museum, London.]

## Lists of subscribers

On w[4] of Parts I–III of the quarto issue, are lists of subscribers [40a–b, 41b, 42c], entitled, 'List of subscribers' in Part I (listing 182 names, and 212 copies), and 'List of additional subscribers', in both, Parts II (47 names, 47 copies), and III (21 names, 21 copies), totaling to 250 subscribers who ordered 280 copies. These same lists were also printed on w[3] and w[4] of Parts I–III of the octavo issue [44b–c, 45b, 46c]. I reproduce the names in Table 1.

## Wrappers

None of the bibliographies, available to me (Anker 1938<sup>19</sup>; Breit & Clarke 1983; Ripley & Scribner 1961; Wood 1931; Zimmer 1926), mention *all* the wrappers of either of the issues of this work. The Yale University Library, apparently, "has the original front cover of pt. 4 bound in" (Ripley & Scribner 1961). Wood (1931) stated that the McGill University Library holds three copies, one being just part four (with original wrappers). The others are an octavo (unpaginated, 166 pp.; 50 plates in colour), and a quarto (unpaginated, 142 pp.; 50 plates in colour). I am now given to understand that only *one* of the three copies that Casey Wood presented to it's library, exists in McGill—the octavo—which he "bought in Calcutta on Dec. 16, 1924" (Eleanor Maclean, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 10 September 2016).

All the works speak of its rarity, e.g., "The firm of Higginbotham, Ltd., of Madras, where the Compiler (Wood) purchased it, had never seen a complete set in the original wrappers, the present part being one of three which they had sold one by one," (Wood 1931). From the Wheldon & Wesley card index one learns

<sup>16</sup> Recorded incorrectly as 'Vellore' by Rookmaaker (2010: 215).

<sup>17</sup> Recorded incorrectly as 'Vellore' by Rookmaaker (2010: 215).

<sup>18</sup> This would be Lady Susan (nee Montagu), the wife of the then Governor of Madras, and Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, George Hay, 8th Marquess of Tweeddale—who would, in turn, have been Jerdon's commanding officer. She was Lord Arthur Hay's mother. Arthur too is listed as a subscriber of the *Illustrations*. In time he became a renowned ornithologist, and succeeded his father as the 9th Marquess of Tweeddale. [Sources: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur\\_Hay,\\_9th\\_Marquess\\_of\\_Tweeddale](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Hay,_9th_Marquess_of_Tweeddale); [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Hay,\\_8th\\_Marquess\\_of\\_Tweeddale](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Hay,_8th_Marquess_of_Tweeddale).]

<sup>19</sup> Erroneously states that the work was issued in five parts (p. 142).



**Table 1.** List of subscribers of the *Illustrations***PART I**

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 Grant, J. Esq. M. D.  
 Halkett, J. Esq.  
 Hennay, Capt. 4th L. C.  
 Hill, Capt. J.  
 Howard, Capt. 33rd N. I.  
 Law, Esq. J. S. Ensign.  
 Lysaght, Capt. Nizam Service.  
 Macauley, Z. Esq.  
 Madeod, D. F. Esq. Benares.  
 McKenzie, W. Esq.  
 Maddock, Hon. T. H. Esq.  
 Montriou, Lt. J. N.  
 Morehead, W. Esq.  
 Morris, H. Esq.  
 Mackenzie, A. Esq.  
 Nicholson, B. A. R. Esq.  
 Nimmo, J. Esq. Bombay.  
 Powerll, Rev. Dr.  
 Ratliff, J. Esq.  
 Seton, Sir H. W. Calcuta.  
 Steele, Lt. Col. C. B.  
 Stewart, Dr. Agra.  
 Taylor, Lt. J. W. F. Arty.  
 Thomas, Major.  
 Tompson, M. Esq. Bombay.  
 Tullock, Col. C. B.  
 Waters, G. J. Esq. C. S.  
 Wigston, Lt. 37th N. I.

**PART III**

Best, Capt. S., Engineers.  
 Batten, Lieut. S. J., 18th N. I.  
 Cust, Lieut. W. P. 7th Lt. Cav.  
 Dun, Lieut. C. W., 43d N. I.  
 Duff, G. Esq.  
 Fraser, Esq., Ceylon.  
 Franklyn, Lieut. Col. C., H. M. 84th Foot.  
 Griffiths, E. R. Esq.  
 Harvey, Captain, H. H. 84th Foot.  
 Hext, Lieut., H. M. 4th or King's Own.  
 Hughes, Lieut. S., H. M. 84th Foot.  
 Jones, Lieut. R. W., H. M. 84th Foot.  
 Literary Society, Madras.  
 Luard, Lieut. Col., c. B., Madras Army.  
 Mahon, Rev. G. W., A. M.  
 Maclean, W. C. Esq., M. D.  
 Maitland, Dr., Madras Army.  
 Rippon, Lieut., Artillery.  
 Thomas, E. B. Esq., M. C. S.  
 Taylor, Lt. Col., Artillery  
 Wellington, G. Esq.

that only one copy, of the eight that they sold, had incomplete wrappers, "The worn front wrappers of pts. 1, 2 and 4 are included" (Wheldon & Wesley 1950–2000).

However, an enquiry at the Natural History Museum, UK, revealed that the quarto edition held in the Tweeddale Library had bound-in wrappers (Paul Martyn Cooper, *in litt*, e-mails dated 24 & 30 June 2016; see below). A similar enquiry at the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, brought forth wrappers of an octavo edition (Karen S. Cook, *in litt*, e-mail dated 21 June 2016; see below). These further reveal the story of this unique publication.

Dickinson *et al.* (2011) recommended Sherborn (1922: lxxi) for dating the parts of the *Illustrations*, as the latter had access to the Tweeddale Library copy (Paul Martyn Cooper, *in litt*,

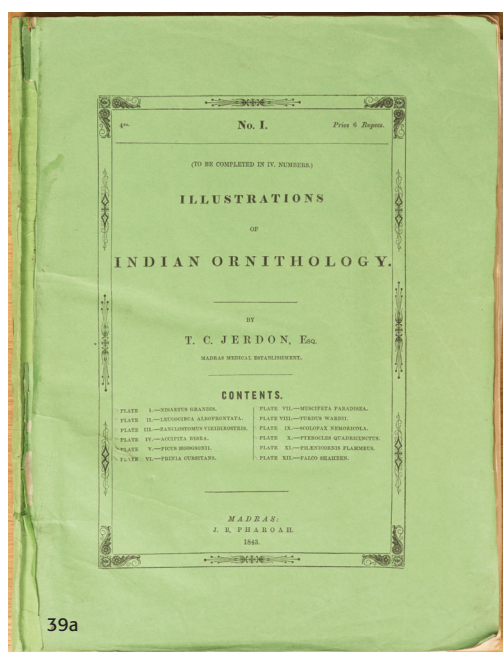
### Wrappers of the quarto issue

e-mail dated 24 June 2016); despite Sherborn's dating, there is much confusion in subsequent works that cited the *Illustrations* (Table 3). Sherborn too seems to have erred in dating Part IV from 'August 1847', even though the wrappers are dated without the month, '1847', having almost certainly depended upon Jerdon's notice on the wrappers of Part III, wherein he assured subscribers that copies of 'No. 4' would be shipped from India in July, to reach England in August 1847. If that were indeed the case, copies to Indian subscribers would have been available in July itself—a moot point to emend Sherborn (1922), and date Part IV from July 1847. Below is a comparison of the various wrappers [39–47].

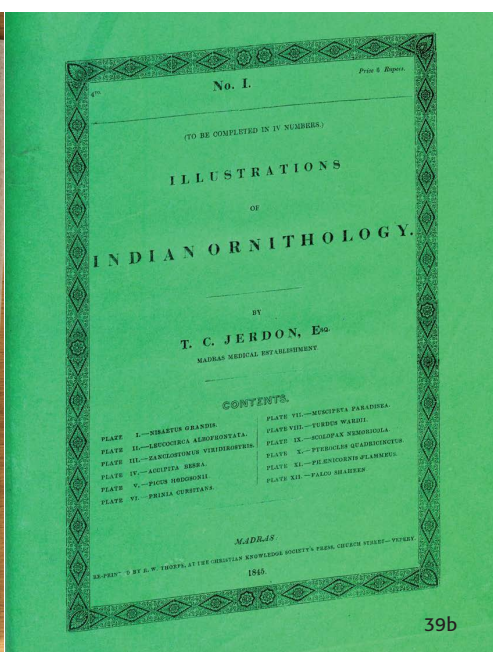
39a. w[7] of quarto Part I (1843). Notice '4<sup>10</sup>' in top left corner, and 'Price 6 Rupees' in top right. Under 'contents' the plates are serially numbered with Roman numerals, I–XII. It was printed by 'J. B. Pharoah', at Madras. [Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]

39b. w[7] of quarto Part I reprint (1845). Content is similar to 39a, except in the last two lines, which state: 'Re-printed by R. W. Thorpe, at the Christian Knowledge Society's Press, Church Street—Vepery', and '1845'. Notice the various differences between the two front covers: borders, type, typesetting, etc. [Courtesy of the Natural History Museum, London.]

Ambareesh Pittie

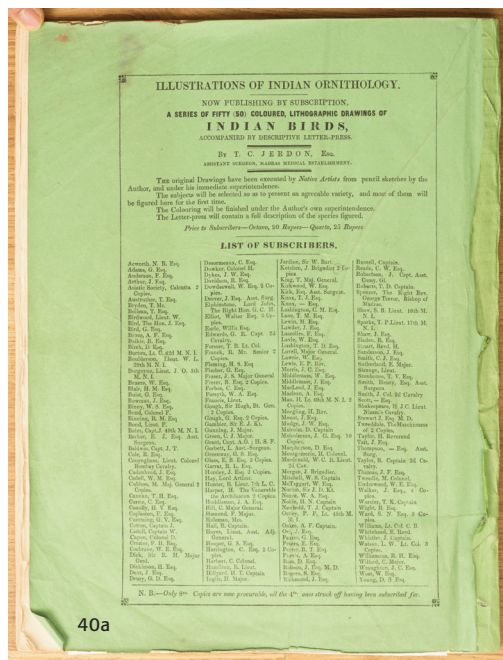


39a

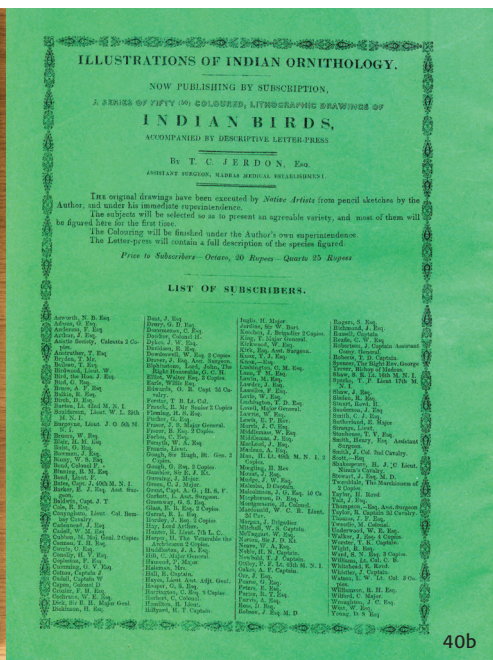


39b

Ambareesh Pittie



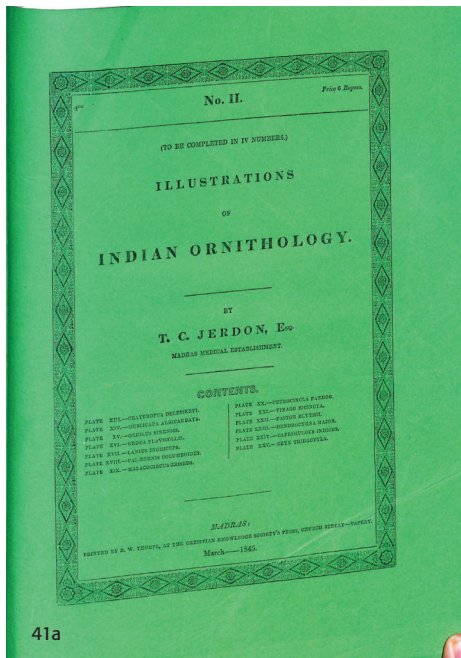
40a



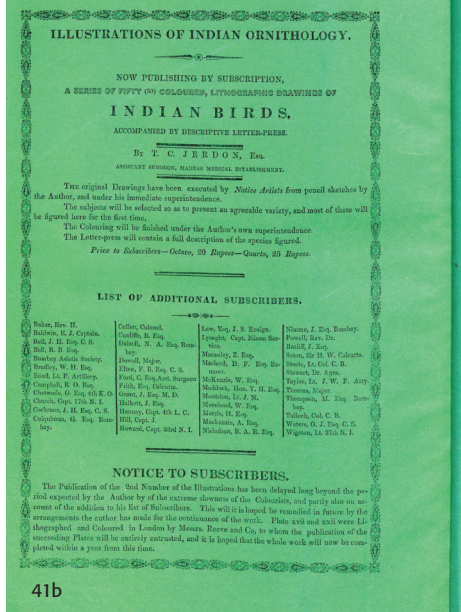
40b

40a. Part I quarto (1843), w[4] (Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie), compared with that of the quarto 1845 reprint 40b (Courtesy of the Natural History Museum, London): both including prospectus, subscription price, list of subscribers, and notice stating only octavo copies available henceforth. Notice the various differences between the two editions: borders, type, typesetting, text, etc. Pertinent is the last line noticed in the 1843 wrapper, which is missing in the 1845 reprint wrapper, as it was redundant.

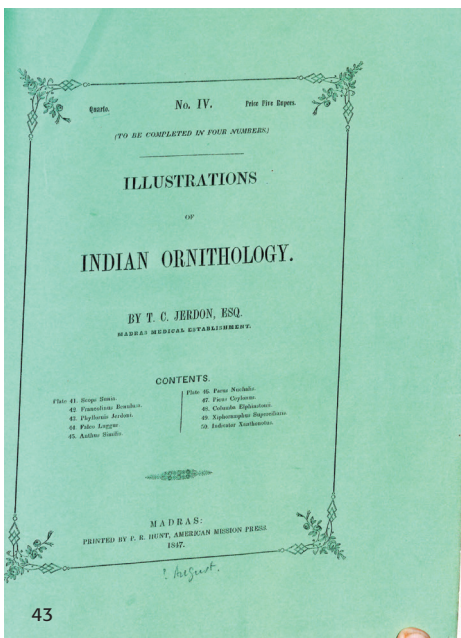




41a



41b

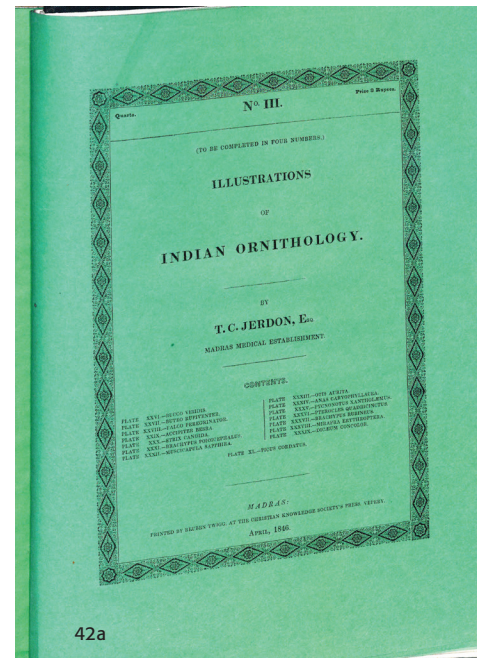


43

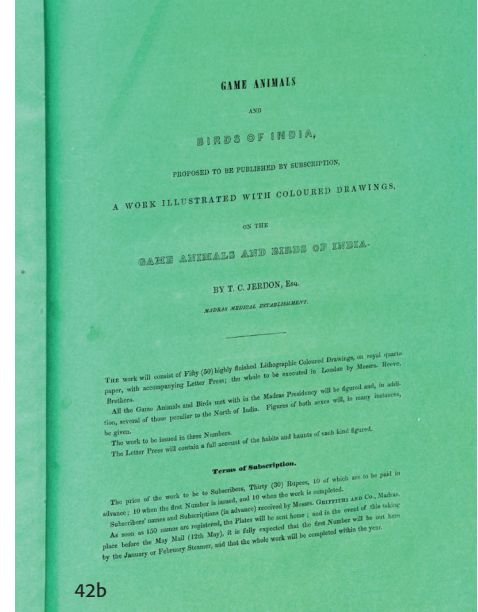
41a. Part II quarto, w[7]. Notice '4<sup>to</sup>' in top left corner, and 'Price 6 Rupees' in top right. Under 'contents' the plates are serially numbered with Roman numerals, XII–XXV. It is dated 'March–1845'.

41b. w[4] with prospectus, 'Price to subscribers' of Octavo, and Quarto sizes, 'List of additional subscribers', 'notice to subscribers'.

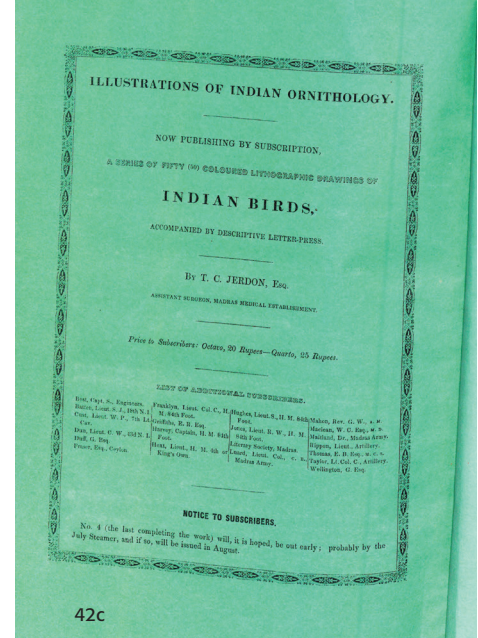
43. Front wrapper of the quarto Part IV. Notice 'Quarto' in top left corner, and 'Price Five Rupees' in top right. Under 'contents' the plates are serially numbered with Arabic numerals, 41–50. The front inside, and both sides of the back wrappers are blank, hence not shown.



42a



42b



42c

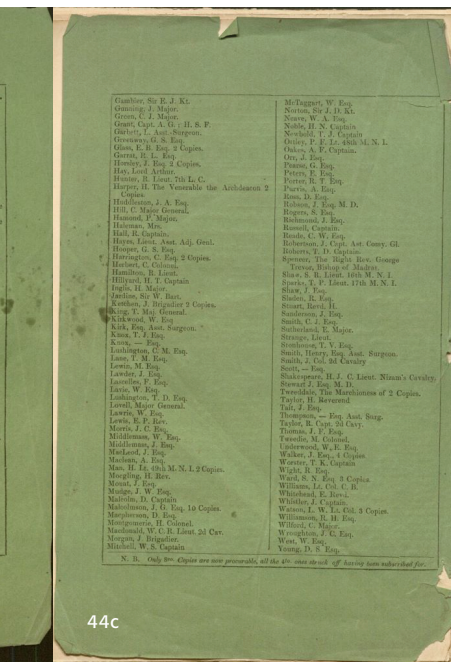
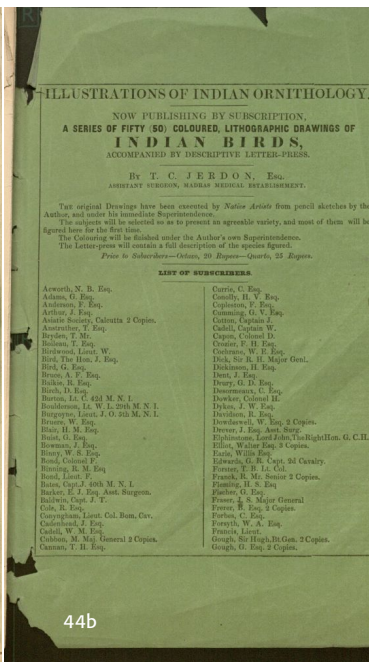
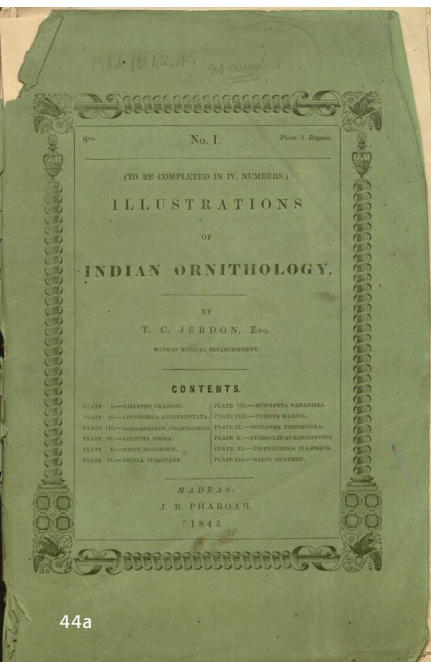
42a. Part III quarto, w[7]. Notice 'Quarto' in top left corner, and 'Price 6 Rupees' in top right. Under 'contents' the plates are serially numbered with Roman numerals, XXVI–XL. It is dated 'April, 1845'.

42b. w[3] with an advertisement of a proposed work by T. C. Jerdon, entitled 'Game animals and birds of India', which was to be illustrated with 50 colour lithographic plates; it solicits subscriptions, but was never published.

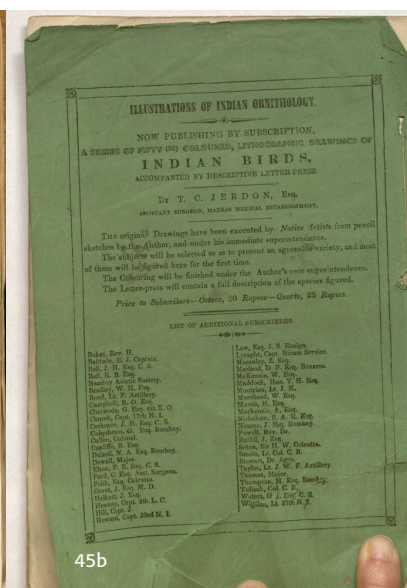
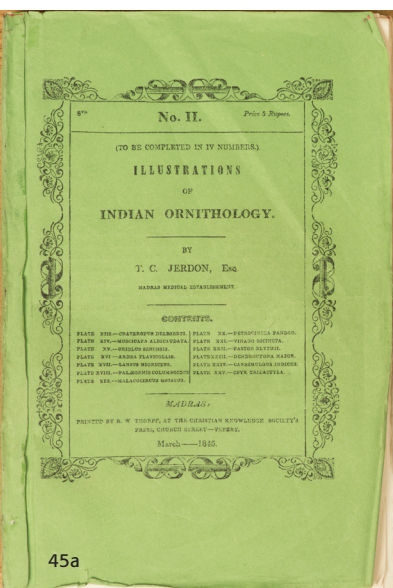
42c. w[4]



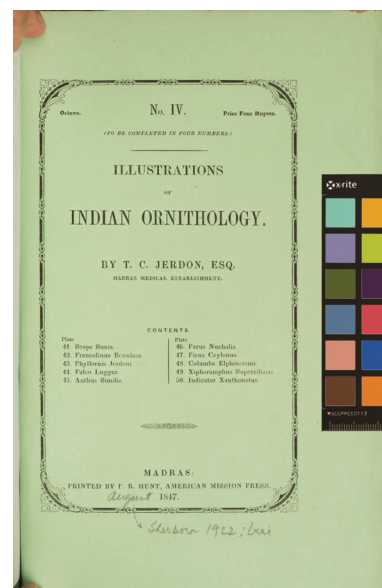
## Wrappers of the octavo issue



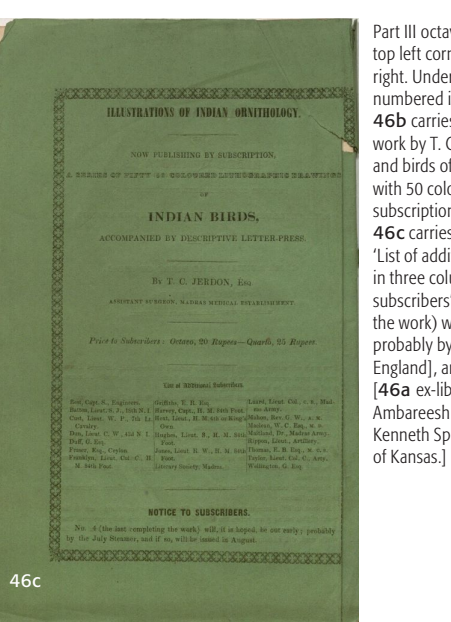
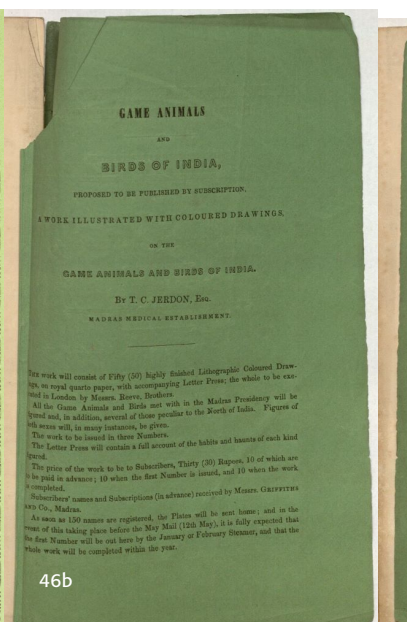
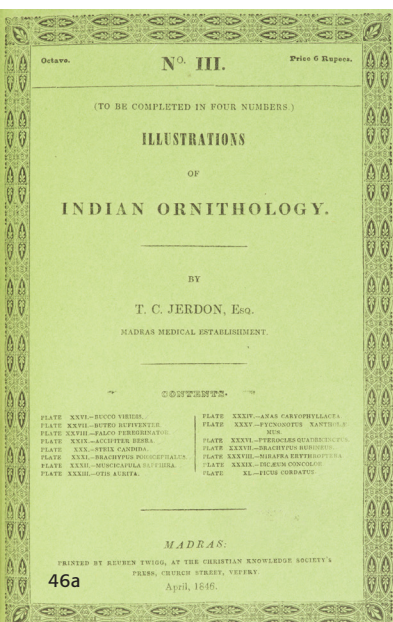
Wrappers of octavo Part I (1843): w[1] 44a, w[3] 44b, and w[4] 44c. Front inside is blank, hence not shown here. The content is exactly the same as that on the quarto 1843 edition, except that, given its smaller size, this octavo edition has letterpress on both sides 44a, c of the back wrapper. The border designs, and type differ from the larger edition. [Courtesy the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas].



Wrappers of octavo Part II. On w[1] 45a, notice '8'00' in top left corner, and 'Price 5 Rupees' in top right. Under 'Contents', the plates are serially numbered with Roman numerals, XIII–XXV, in two columns. (A 'notice to subscribers' is printed on w[2].) w[4] 45b carries the same prospectus, etc., as that in Part I 44b, present there on the 4[3]), and a 'List of additional subscribers' in two columns on w[4]. [45a ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie; Photo: Ambareesh Pittie. 45b courtesy the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.]



w[2, 3, 4] are blank, hence not shown. [Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie. Photo: Ambareesh Pittie.]



Part III octavo w[1] 46a: Notice 'Octavo' in top left corner, and 'Price 6 Rupees' in top right. Under 'contents' the plates are serially numbered in Roman numerals, XXVI–XL. w[3] 46b carries an advertisement of a proposed work by T. C. Jerdon, entitled 'Game animals and birds of India', which was to be illustrated with 50 colour lithographic plates; it solicits subscriptions, but was never published. w[4] 46c carries the title, author, and price, and a 'List of additional subscribers', the last typeset in three columns. The full text of 'Notice to subscribers' states, 'No. 4 (the last completing the work) will, it is hoped, be out early; probably by the July Steamer [from India to England], and if so, will be issued in August.' [46a ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie. Photo: Ambareesh Pittie; 46b, c are courtesy the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.]



## Plates

Native Indian artists, working under Jerdon's "superintendence", set up the colour templates, and executed the fifty colour plates of this work. It is significant that they worked on pencil sketches made by Jerdon (see Prospectus, above), which is another angle to this multi-faceted Scot's genius.<sup>20</sup> These were then drawn on stone and made into lithographs, which were used to make imprints on paper. These prints were then hand-painted by a team of Indian colourists. Much is made, as it should be, of the native Indian lithographer and printer, C. V. Kistnarajoo, who was responsible for 24 of the 50 plates. His lithography has been much admired over the years, both for its light touch, and the use of water-colour along with lithography.

"By far the most interesting of these [plates] are those of Kistnarajoo which have very scant lithography and

almost give the impression of original paintings. In fact...some of the plates signed by this lithographer exhibit considerable areas of watercolor [sic] without lithography. These plates were clearly lithographed and printed in India whereas others, involving the Reeve firm, may have been lithographed in London and were certainly printed there" (Soffer 2007).

Though the antecedents of Kistnarajoo's lithographic press are unknown, the process was extant in Madras for at least sixteen years before Part I of the *Illustrations* was published.<sup>21</sup> The remaining plates were lithographed, printed, and coloured in England, by various lithographers, printers, and colourists (Table 2), as Jerdon became impatient with delays in the publication of Part II itself, "...by of [sic] the extreme slowness of Colourists, and partly also on account of the addition to his list of subscribers"<sup>22</sup>.

**Table 2.** Details of plates in Jerdon's *Illustrations* with names of lithographers, and printers<sup>23</sup>.

Part	Plate	Facing page	Name on plate	Present name	Signature	Lithographer	Printer of plates
I	I	A1	<i>Nisaetus Strenuus</i>	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>	'Printed by Litho' <sup>24</sup> C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	II	C1	<i>Leucocirca albofrontata</i>	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	'Printed by' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	III	D1	<i>Zanclostomus viridirostris</i>	<i>Phaenicophaeus viridirostris</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	IV	E1	<i>Accipiter Besra</i>	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i> <sup>25</sup>	'Printed by' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	V	F1	<i>Picus Hodgsonii</i>	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	'Printed by' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	VI	F3	<i>Prinia cursitans</i>	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	'Printed by' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	VII	G1	<i>Muscipeta paradisea</i>	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	VIII	H1	<i>Turdus Wardii</i>	<i>Geokichla wardii</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	IX	H3	<i>Scolopax nemoricola</i>	<i>Gallinago nemoricola</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	X	I1	<i>Pterocles quadricinctus</i>	<i>Pterocles indicus</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	XI	I3	<i>Phaenicornis flammeus</i>	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
I	XII	J3	<i>Falco Shaheen</i>	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	'Printed by' C.V.K. '1842'	C.V.K. <sup>26</sup>	C.V.K.
II	XIII	A1	<i>Crateropus Delesserti</i>	<i>Garrulax delesserti</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XIV	H1	<i>Muscicapa albicaudata</i>	<i>Eumyias albicaudatus</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XV	C1	<i>Oriolus Sinensis</i>	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XVI	M1	<i>Ardea nigra</i>	<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XVII	D1	<i>Lanius nigriceps</i>	<i>Lanius schach tricolor</i>	'R.E.B. lith./'prelith:Linn:imp' <sup>27</sup>	R.E.B.	Linn
II	XVIII	K1	<i>Palæornis columboides</i>	<i>Psittacula columboides</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XIX	N1	<i>Malacocircus griseus</i>	<i>Turdoides affinis</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XX	L1	<i>Petrocincla Manillensis</i>	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XXI	E1	<i>Vinago bicincta</i>	<i>Treron bicinctus</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.

20 "...it was his practice merely to figure every species, both those captured by himself and those already depicted by others, for which purpose he generally retained the services of a native draughtsman; or, on emergencies, made rough tinted or pencil sketches himself" (Elliot 1873: 149). Retaining the services of local artists, and training them up to the standards of art expected in Europe, seemed to have been the general practice at that time, especially amongst the East India Company's officials, and their relatives. The work that resulted from such efforts became known as 'Company School, or Company Art'. The polymath, and British Resident at the court of Nepal, Brian Houghton Hodgson, wrote to his sister, "I have three native artists always employed in drawing from nature" (Hunter 1896: 79).

21 Lithographic printing arrived in India in 1822, when James Nathaniel Rind of the Bengal Medical Service, brought a lithographic press to Calcutta [=Kolkata]. This was purchased by the Bengal Administration of the East India Company, and used primarily for maps, and charts. Soon, lithographic presses were set up in Bombay [=Mumbai] in 1826, and Madras [=Chennai] in 1827. Charles D'Oyly set up the 'Behar Amateur Lithographic Press', or the 'Behar Lithographic Press', in 1826, in Patna (Bihar), and its first publication was in 1828 (Losty 1989).

22 Notice to subscribers on w[2] of Part II.

23 Though the names of artists are unknown, a glimpse into Jerdon's dedication to portray exact images of birds was revealed to me through L. Shyamal's exceedingly well-researched blog (Shyamal 2011) wherein he points to Lieut Gen. E. F. Burton's memories of how Jerdon "maintained at this place [Trichinopoly] a staff of native artists, and taught them to paint in a much better style than they had been accustomed to. Before he took them in hand, their art was confined to quaint representations of natives...all painted on talc or on rice paper...But under Dr. Jerdon's teaching these people became apt in faithful and laborious representation of the feathered tribes, and attained a really very high pitch of excellence. With true Hindoo patience, every feather—nay, every vane and cirrus of each feather—was separately and truly shown; the pictured bird was a laboured and exact presentment of the bird itself. These also were painted on rice paper or on sheets of talc" (Burton 1888).

24 "lith., litho., lithog. [etc.]: An unreliable term, which can refer either to the person who created the image on the stone or to the person who printed it from the stone," (Gascoigne 2004).

25 Three taxa are depicted twice: *Accipiter virgatus* (Part I: plate IV; III: XXIX); *Pterocles indicus* (I: X; III: XXXVI); and *Falco peregrinus* (I: XII; III: XXVIII).

26 This is the only plate that is dated, '1842', below Kistnarajoo's signature. In the 8vo edition in The Asiatic Society of Bombay [598.2954 JER/ILL 39860], this signature is on the bottom left hand corner of the plate, in two lines, thus: "Printed by: | C. V. Kistnarajoo,—".

27 "imp., impressit: Printed on a lithographic press," (Gascoigne 2004).

**Table 2.** Details of plates in Jerdon's *Illustrations* with names of lithographers, and printers<sup>23</sup>.

Part	Plate	Facing page	Name on plate	Present name	Signature	Lithographer	Printer of plates
II	XXII	I1	<i>Pastor Blythii</i>	<i>Sturnia malabarica blythii</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'prel:lith:Linn:imp'	R.E.B.	Linn
II	XXIII	G1	<i>Dendrocygna major</i>	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XXIV	F1	<i>Caprimulgus Indicus</i>	<i>Caprimulgus indicus</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
II	XXV	B1	<i>Ceyx tridactyla</i>	<i>Ceyx erithaca</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
III	XXVI	p. [1]	<i>Bucco viridis</i>	<i>Psilopogon viridis</i>	'Leonard lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	Leonard	Reeve Brothers
III	XXVII	p. [3]	<i>Buteo rufiventer</i>	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	R.E.B.	Reeve Brothers
III	XXVIII	p. [5]	<i>Falco peregrinator</i>	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	'Leonard, lith.' / 'Reeve, imp. London'	Leonard	Reeve, London
III	XXIX	u.p.	<i>Accipiter Besra</i>	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	'Leonard lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	Leonard	Reeve Brothers
III	XXX	u.p.	<i>Strix candida</i>	<i>Tyto longimembris</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	R.E.B.	Reeve Brothers
III	XXXI	u.p.	<i>Brachypodius poiocephalus</i>	<i>Alcippe poiocephala</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	Leonard	Reeve Brothers
III	XXXII	u.p.	<i>Muscicapula sapphira</i>	<i>Ficedula sapphira</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	Leonard	Reeve Brothers
III	XXXIII	u.p.	<i>Otis aurita</i>	<i>Sypheotides indicus</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	R.E.B.	Reeve Brothers
III	XXXIV	u.p.	<i>Anas caryophyllacea</i>	<i>Rhodonessa caryophyllacea</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Reeve, imp. London'	R.E.B.	Reeve, London
III	XXXV	u.p.	<i>Pycnonotus xantholaemus</i>	<i>Pycnonotus xantholaemus</i>	'Leonard lith.' / 'Reeve Brothers London.'	Leonard	Reeve Brothers
III	XXXVI	u.p.	<i>Pterodes quadricinctus</i>	<i>Pterocles indicus</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	R.E.B.	Reeve Brothers
III	XXXVII	u.p.	<i>Brachypus rubineus</i>	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus gularis</i>	'Leonard lith.' / 'Reeve Brothers London.'	Leonard	Reeve Brothers London
III	XXXVIII	u.p.	<i>Mirafr erythroptera</i>	<i>Mirafr erythroptera</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers.'	R.E.B.	Reeve Brothers
III	XXXIX	u.p.	<i>Dicaeum concolor</i>	<i>Dicaeum concolor</i>	'Leonard lith.' / 'Printed by Reeve Brothers London.'	Leonard	Reeve Brothers London
III	XL	u.p.	<i>Hemicircus cordatus</i>	<i>Hemicircus canente</i>	'Printed by Litho' C.V.K.	C.V.K.	C.V.K.
IV	XLI	u.p.	<i>Scops sunia</i>	<i>Otus sunia</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLII	u.p.	<i>Francolinus Hardwickii</i>	<i>Galloperdix lunulata</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLIII	B1	<i>Chloropsis Jerdoni</i>	<i>Chloropsis jerdoni</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLIV	B4	<i>Falco luggur</i>	<i>Falco jugger</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLV	C3	<i>Anthus similis-Jerdon</i> <sup>28</sup>	<i>Anthus similis</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLVI	D1	<i>Parus nuchalis</i>	<i>Macholophus nuchalis</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLVII	D2	<i>Picus Ceylonus</i>	<i>Dinopium benghalense jaffnense</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLVIII	D3	<i>Columba Elphinstonii</i>	<i>Columba elphinstonii</i>	'Miller lith.' / 'Reeve (London) imp.'	Miller	Reeve (London)
IV	XLIX	E1	<i>Xiphorhamphus superciliaris</i>	<i>Pomatorhinus superciliaris</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Prel:lith:Linn:imp'	R.E.B.	Linn
IV	L	E2	<i>Indicator xanthonotus</i>	<i>Indicator xanthonotus</i>	'R.E.B. lith.' / 'Prel:lith:Linn:imp'	R.E.B.	Linn

Abbreviations: C.V.K.=C. V. Kistnarajoo; u.p.=unnumbered page.

He confessed in his 'Notice to subscribers' (w[2] of part II),

"The Publication of the 2nd Number of the Illustrations has been delayed long beyond the period expected by the Author by of [sic.] the extreme slowness of the Colourists, and partly also on account of the addition to his list of Subscribers. This will it is hoped be remedied in future by the arrangements the author has made for the continuance of the work. Plate xvii and xxii were Lithographed and Coloured in London by Messrs. Reeve and Co, to whom the publication of the succeeding Plates will be entirely entrusted, and it is hoped that the whole work will now be completed within a year from this time."

<sup>28</sup> This is the only instance where Jerdon has specifically added his name to a taxon. It should be noted that this is not the race, *jerdoni*, which name was given by Finsch, 1870, to conspecifics from northern Punjab.

Reviewers of his work (Part I) did not agree with his decision. An anonymous reviewer in the *Calcutta Journal of Natural History* (Anon. 1844a) could not contain his praise, "The execution of the plates and the colouring...surpasses any thing [sic] of the kind that has yet been attempted in the way of Zoological publications in India". Another anonymous reviewer in the *Madras Journal of Literature and Science* (Anon. 1844b) was unequivocal in his commendation; "In execution and colouring they challenge a comparison with the best illustrated works that have issued from the European press." And Strickland, in his review in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (1845), admired "these plates, lithographed and coloured by native Indian artists, and in a style which does them great credit...the designs are well-drawn, and the colouring is executed with a far higher degree of finish than European artists can generally afford to give to their publications". Regarding replacing the native Indian artists with Europeans, he felt "that with the resources which the native talent of India can supply, this step was hardly necessary".



Ultimately, Jerdon seems to have retained his native artists, but shifted the lithography, and printing of plates to England. Upon the completion of the work, he noticed in an introduction to Part IV,

"Forty-seven distinct species of Birds are represented... The great majority of them are figured here for the first time, and either improved figures, or different states of plumage, compose the remainder of the drawings. Three of the birds are from the Himalayas, and one from Ceylon [=Sri Lanka]—all the rest inhabit the peninsula of India."

Jerdon's dissatisfaction with the plates led him to involve a friend, acknowledging anonymously in his introductory note to Part I, "The ground-work and branches are from the pencil of a highly talented amateur Artist". He further stated,

"Several of the plates, however, viz. Nos., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 12 were printed off before the Author became acquainted with that gentleman. Thirty additional copies of these plates being afterwards found necessary to meet the increasing list of Subscribers, the same Officer added a ground-work to these. The colourists were instructed to paint in to those first printed similar to that of the additional lithographs; but, as might have been expected, they have not executed this part so well as the Author could have wished, and they were not allowed to finish all the copies. In consequence of this a difference, more marked in some than others, will be found among the plates mentioned above; and I trust that this explanation may prove sufficient to those who have the opportunity of comparing the two sets."<sup>29</sup>

If one goes strictly by Jerdon's use of the word "Officer", the artist in question would be Capt. Samuel Best (1808–1851), Madras Engineers. Elliot (1873: 145) footnoted, "The foliage and foregrounds were added by the late Captain S. Best, Madras Engineers". Capt. Best served, from 1845 as the Superintendent of Roads in Madras, and accomplished the building of the Southern Trunk Road, and the Goolcheroo Pass (=Guvvala Cheruvu Pass, between Rayachoti and Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh), through a section of the Eastern Ghats. He was just 43, when he died of a fever in Chittoor (now in the state of Andhra Pradesh) (Riddick 1998).

Elliot (1873: 145) also stated that "The plates are remarkably well executed, and the figures depicted with much accuracy and spirit, some of them having been contributed by an amateur friend", and footnoted that that friend was "Mr. S. N. Ward, Madras Civil Service". Samuel Neville Ward (1813–1897) (Burke & Burke 1847; Anon. 2016) retired as the 'Judge of Koyambatur' (=Coimbatore) (Anon. 2016). He was artistically accomplished, at least in painting landscapes, and Lepidoptera (Forbes 1885)<sup>30</sup>.

Jerdon acknowledged his debt "to my friend, S. N. Ward, Esq. M. C. S., for the only specimen of this curious *Thrush*, I have



48. Plate VIII *Zosterothera wardii*. "Procured" by S. N. Ward, Esq. M. C. S., "...in the table-land of Mysore immediately below the Segoor pass of the Neilgherries, during the cool season." [Lithographer: C. V. Kistanarajoo; Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.] Photo: Ambareesh Pittie.

yet seen. It was procured by him in the table-land of Mysore immediately below the Segoor pass of the Neilgherries, during the cool season" (Jerdon 1843: letterpress facing Pl. VIII). He named the spectacular Ward's Thrush (=Pied Thrush *Geokichla wardii*), in his honour, *Turdus Wardii*<sup>31</sup> [48], which plate too seems to have been augmented by a Capt. Best background.

Walter Elliot and Jerdon were close associates<sup>32</sup>, and it would be prudent to rely upon the former's identification of S. N. Ward<sup>33</sup> as the artist friend (at least for some of the plates). However, Jerdon's oversight in naming the friends who helped him seems strange, for those were times of great probity. Be that as it may, here were men from such varied professional fields—medicine (Jerdon), engineering (Best), and law (Ward)—brought together in a foreign land by the compelling avocation of natural history—to study, and to record it for posterity. What drove them to do it? Was it the thrill of discovery, or a place in the glorified firmament of men of science, or something simpler, to be able to escape to this hobby, after a hard day at office, for solace? To some, that would suffice.

The unusual practice of increasing the print run, and re-touching the initial plates to enhance their appeal, resulted in the work existing in several states wherein the plates of some

<sup>29</sup> As shown later in this paper, there were other plates, besides those mentioned by Jerdon, that showed differences upon comparing various copies.

<sup>30</sup> "...Mr. Samuel Neville Ward [Joint-Magistrate, Sirsi (=Sirsi)]... was above all things a devoted naturalist... he was also a draughtsman of rare skill, depicting things too perishable for preservation, and stereotyping in this way peculiarities of attitude and colouring not easy of record by other means... I think Mr. Ward has presented to the British Museum his collection of coloured drawings of over four hundred species of caterpillars. Each is depicted on the leaves it fed upon, and with the chrysalis, shown beside it, into which it shrank..." (Forbes 1885: 107–110).

<sup>31</sup> Blyth (1843) published this name, with a description, before Jerdon, and so is credited as its author.

<sup>32</sup> Elliot subscribed for three copies of the *Illustrations* (Table 1).

<sup>33</sup> Ward subscribed three copies too (Table 1).

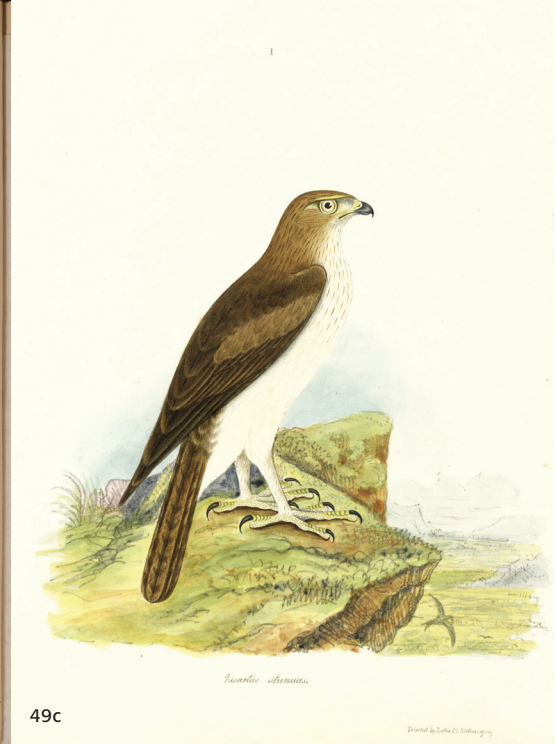




49a



49b



49c

**49a.** Plate I. "*Nisaetus Strenuus*". Bonelli's Eagle. Bare lithograph with a rudimentary background artwork. [Source: Biodiversity Heritage Library; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461>.]

**49b.** Plate I. "*Nisaetus Strenuus*". Bonelli's Eagle. Lithograph with background artwork added. [Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.] Photo: Ambareesh Pittie

**49c.** Plate I. "*Nisaetus Strenuus*". Bonelli's Eagle. Lithograph with additional background artwork, vis-à-vis **49b**, from a copy sold at auction by Bonhams Auctioneers (June 2011, Auction No. 18847, Lot No. 79). [Source: Courtesy of Bonhams Auctioneers.]



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**50b.** Plate XXI "*Vinago bincta*". Purple and Orange Breasted Green Pigeon (=Orange-breasted Green Pigeon *Treron binctus*).

Lithograph with background artwork added. Lithographer: C. V. Kistnarajoo. [Source: Biodiversity Heritage Library; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461>.]

**50a.** Plate XXI "*Vinago bincta*". Purple and Orange Breasted Green Pigeon (=Orange-breasted Green Pigeon *Treron binctus*). Lithograph with background artwork added. Lithographer: C. V. Kistnarajoo. [Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]





51a. Plate XXV. "*Ceyx tridactyla*". Purple 3 toed Kingfisher (=Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca*). Lithograph with background artwork added, but differing significantly from the earlier plate. Lithographer: C. V. Kistnarajoo. [Source: The Asiatic Society of Bombay, 598.2954 JER/ILL 39860.]



51b. Plate XXV. "*Ceyx tridactyla*". Purple 3 toed Kingfisher (=Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca*). Lithograph with background artwork added. Lithographer: C. V. Kistnarajoo. [Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]

Ambareesh Pitie



52a. Plate VII. "*Muscipeta paradisea*". Paradise Flycatcher (=Indian Paradise-flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*). Plate from the octavo edition in the made-up copy in The Asiatic Society of Mumbai, clearly showing that the plate has been trimmed close to the artwork. [Source: The Asiatic Society of Mumbai.]



52b. Plate VII. "*Muscipeta paradisea*". Paradise Flycatcher (=Indian Paradise-flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*). Plate from the quarto edition, clearly showing the clear, wide margins around the artwork. [Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]

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were with rudimentary backgrounds, while others had branches and leaves painted in, and/or backgrounds with different levels of water-coloured detailing, with, or without being lithographed; "touched up" (Zimmer 1926). All these states are quite rare, and might actually even exist in volumes that contain plates in mixed states; some with backgrounds (lithograph, or water-colour), some without. Examples of these are shown here through three states of Plate I of the Bonelli's Eagle [49a–c]; two states of Plate XXI of the Orange-breasted Green Pigeon [50a–b]; and, two states of Plate XXV of the Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher [51a–b]. It is not difficult to see the reason for Jerdon's angst, and the dramatic difference, of depth, and perspective, the backgrounds lent to the primary artwork.

It should also be noted that the plates in the octavo edition, were the same size as those in the quarto [52a–b].

### Letterpress

The text, or letterpress that accompanied the plates was written entirely by Jerdon. Its perusal reveals the depth of his field knowledge of birds. Besides descriptions, measurements, and distribution, he provides information about their breeding, feeding, vocalisations, behaviour, etc., and invariably gives their native "Telugoo" (=Telugu), and "Tamool" (=Tamil) names. His engaging narrative complements the illustrations. Below, two samples, from his text, showcasing his sense of humour, acuity of observation, and attention to detail.

"I have often amused myself in imagining that they [babblers] are not inapt representatives of the Hindoos; certainly as far as their frequent congregating together, and their incessant noisy chattering and gabbling, they agree; and were I disposed to carry on the similitude further, it would not I think be a difficult task. It is not a little remarkable too that in Southern India there are several kinds which in some measure correspond in geographical distribution with the principal Hindoo races of this part of the country. We have the *M. Malcolmii* in the country of the Mahrattas; the subject of the present plate (Plate XIX, *Malacocircus griseus*) nearly confined to, and at all events most abundant in the Carnatic, the country of the Tamools; a very closely allied species inhabits Travancore and Cochin, the province of the Malayalam race; it is probable that a fourth species is to be found in the Canarese districts; one or perhaps two species dwell in the forests bordering the western ghauts; another prefers the eastern ghauts, and jungles of the northern circars, among the Gentoos; Ceylon possess a distinct kind; Bengal has at least one or two more; and the elevated forests of the Wynaad, and the edges of the higher mountains of the Western ghauts, are the habitat of a very distinct species, somewhat allied in colouring to the *Crateropi*, which curiously enough at a higher level inhabit the same regions, to the exclusion of the *Malacocirci*, though in very limited number, whilst in the North of India species of the former genus abound, and descend I believe, nearly to the plains." (Text accompanying Plate XIX, Part II.)

"I procured my first specimens [of the Large Indian Nightjar] from the Neilgherries [=Nilgiris], but have since obtained some from other parts of the country,

from the Deccan, the west coast, and even the Carnatic, but it is by no means a common species. It affects chiefly the more wooded portions of the country, being usually found, and more common in forests than in the open country, and here frequenting only shady gardens and large groves. On the Neilgherries it remains during the day in the dense woods there, issuing from them about sunset, and then coming into the open ground, and perching on stones and trees, and from thence pursuing its insect prey. It is now and then flushed from the woods when beating for woodcock, or other game, and more than one have fallen beneath the gun of the inexperienced sportsman, its extent of wing and lazy flapping having caused it to be mistaken for the woodcock. Its flight is at times very rapid and noiseless, performed with but a few vibrations of its wings. When roused in the day time it flies (like others of the genus) but a short distance, and then suddenly alights, and squats close to the ground, never that I know perching in the day time; when hunting it often alights on a branch, usually sitting in the direction of the branch, and not across it, its feet being not adopted [sic] for grasping firmly." (Text accompanying plate XXIV, Part II.)

### New names and their correct citation

Jerdon proposed twelve new names in this work; some are now in synonymy, their descriptions and names having appeared before (Dickinson *et al.* 2011). Given that the work was issued in two editions, which of the two does one use for dating? My recommendation is to use the quarto edition, for the following reasons. Quarto was the preferred size for publications sold on subscription, and would have been published, and distributed before the smaller, octavo was, thus antedating it. It is highly unlikely that both editions were printed simultaneously, as their perusal shows letterpress (for several plates) running onto a greater number of pages in the octavo edition. A new name too, appears either on an earlier page in the quarto, or on the same page as that in the octavo.

The unorthodox publication history of the *Illustrations* resulted in considerable confusion regarding its dating, in major ornithological works. I have listed some of these in Table 3.

Below is a list of all new names proposed in the *Illustrations*, whether they are in present usage, or in synonymy, with their complete citations. The first line provides the recommended citation from the quarto, the second the octavo (with pages being numbered from the relevant gathering), and the third gives the current binomen/trinomen of the taxon with full citation for the quarto issue, followed by its English name.

### New names proposed by Jerdon in his *Illustrations* that are now in current usage

#### *M. (alacocircus) affinis*

*M. (alacocircus) affinis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, pp. N3–N4 of text to pl. 19.

*M. (alacocircus) affinis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, p. N4 of text to pl. 19.

= *Turdoides affinis affinis* (Jerdon, 1845), *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, pp. N3–N4 of text to pl. 19. [=Yellow-billed Babbler.]



**Table 3.** Dating of new species introduced by Jerdon in his *Illustrations*, in various major works

Species	<i>Illustrations</i>	Catalogue of the British Museum	Fauna of British India: Birds (Baker 1930)	Peters Checklist	Synopsis (Ripley 1982)
<i>Nisaetus strenuus</i>	1843	1847 (Sharpe 1874: 250)	1847 (p. 406)	—	—
<i>L.(eucocirca) pectoralis</i>	1843	—	1843 (p. 145)	1843 (Watson & Mayr 1986: 534)	1847 (p. 398)
<i>Caprimulgus atripennis</i>	1845	1847 (Sharpe & Ogilvie-Grant 1898: 542)	1847 (371)	1845 (Peters 1940: 207)	1845 (p. 193)
<i>M.(alacocircus) affinis</i>	1845	—	1847 (p. 36)	1845 (Deignan 1964: 339)	1847 (p. 348)
<i>M.(alacocircus) Elliotti</i>	1845	—	—	1845 (Deignan 1964: 339)	—
<i>M.(alacocircus) malabaricus</i>	1845	1847 (Sharpe 1883 <sup>34</sup> : 479)	1847 (p. 36)	1845 (Deignan 1964: 337)	1847 (p. 347)
<i>M.(alacocircus) orientalis</i>	1845	1847 (Sharpe 1883: 479)	1847 (p. 36)	1845 (Deignan 1964: 338)	1847 (p. 346)
<i>M.(alacocircus) Orissae</i>	1845	—	—	—	1847 (p. 347)
<i>Malacocircus griseus</i>	1845	1847 (Sharpe 1883: 480)	—	—	—
<i>Oriolus indicus</i>	1845	???? (Sharpe 1877: 197)	"Mch 1845" (p. 206)	1845 (Greenway 1962: 128)	1845 (p. 268)
<i>Pastor blythii</i>	1845	1847 (Sharpe 1894: 54)	1844 (p. 213) <sup>35</sup>	1844 (Amadon 1962: 105) <sup>36</sup>	1844 (p. 277) <sup>37</sup>
<i>V.[inago] malabarica</i>	1845	March 1845 (Salvadori 1893: 45)	1845 (p. 429)	—	—

***M.(alacocircus) malabaricus***

*M.(alacocircus) malabaricus* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. O1 of text to pl. 19.

*M.(alacocircus) malabaricus* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, p. O2 of text to pl. 19.

Deignan (1964: 337) listed this as a race of *Turdoides striatus*, based upon Ali & Whistler (1935: 73).

= *Turdoides striata malabarica* (Jerdon, 1845), *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. O1 of text to pl. 19. [=Jungle Babbler.]

***M.(alacocircus) orientalis***

*M.(alacocircus) orientalis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. O1 of text to pl. 19.

*M.(alacocircus) orientalis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, p. O3 of text to pl. 19.

Deignan (1964: 338) listed this as a race of *Turdoides striatus*, based upon Ripley (1958: 9).

= *Turdoides striata orientalis* (Jerdon, 1845), *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. O1 of text to pl. 19. [=Jungle Babbler.]

***Pastor blythii***

*Pastor blythii* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. I1 of text to pl. 22.

*Pastor blythii* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, p. I1 of text to pl. 22.

Amadon (1962: 105) listed it as a race of *Sturnus malabaricus* (Gmelin, 1789), incorrectly citing, "*Pastor blythii* Jerdon, 1844, Madras Journ. Lit. Sci., 13, p. 133," perhaps after Baker (1930: 213). Pittie & Dickinson (2013: 157) rectified this, showing that the name was first published in Jerdon's *Illustrations*.

= *Sturnia malabarica blythii* (Jerdon, 1845), *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. I1 of text to pl. 22. [=Chestnut-tailed Starling.]

***Caprimulgus atripennis***

*Caprimulgus atripennis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. F3 of text to pl. 24.

*Caprimulgus atripennis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, p. F4 of text to pl. 24.

Baker (1930: 371) listed *atripennis* as a race of *Caprimulgus macrurus* (sic) (Horsfield, 1821), incorrectly citing it as,

'*Caprimulgus atripennis* Jerdon, *Illus. Ind. Orn.*, pl. 24, 1847 [sic]' Peters (1940: 207) too treated it as a race of *Caprimulgus macrurus*, citing, '*Caprimulgus atripennis* Jerdon, *Illustr. Indian Orn.*, 1845, pl. 24.' Mees (1985) elevated it to a full species, and was supported by Ripley & Beehler (1987: 48). Cleere (2002) emended the citation for this taxon to: *Caprimulgus atripennis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. 3 of text to pl. 24. He was right in citing from the 4to ed. However, citing the gathering signature lends greater accuracy, since the work was unpaginated, and the work was issued in two editions.

= *Caprimulgus atripennis atripennis* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. F3 of text to pl. 24. [=Jerdon's Nightjar.]

**New names proposed by Jerdon in his *Illustrations* that are in synonymy*****Nisaetus strenuus***

*Nisaetus strenuus* Jerdon, 1843, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 1, pl. 1. *Nisaetus strenuus* Jerdon, 1843, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 1, pl. 1. Sharpe (1874: 250), and Hartert (1921: 1110) listed it in the synonymy of *Nisaetus fasciatus*.

= *Aquila fasciata* Vieillot, 1822 [Bonelli's Eagle].

***L.(eucocirca) pectoralis***

*L.(eucocirca) pectoralis* Jerdon, 1843, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 1, pp. C3 of text to pl. 2.

*L.(eucocirca) pectoralis* Jerdon, 1843, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 1, pp. B3<sup>38</sup> of text to pl. 2.

Watson & Mayr (1986: 534) listed it in the synonymy of *Rhipidura albicollis albogularis* (Lesson, 1832), presenting an incomplete citation: '*Leucocirca pectoralis* Jerdon, 1843, *Illus. Indian Ornith.*, text to pl. 2—Neilgherries = Nilgiris.'

= *Rhipidura albicollis albogularis* (Lesson, 1832) [White-throated Fantail].

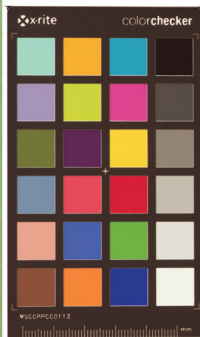
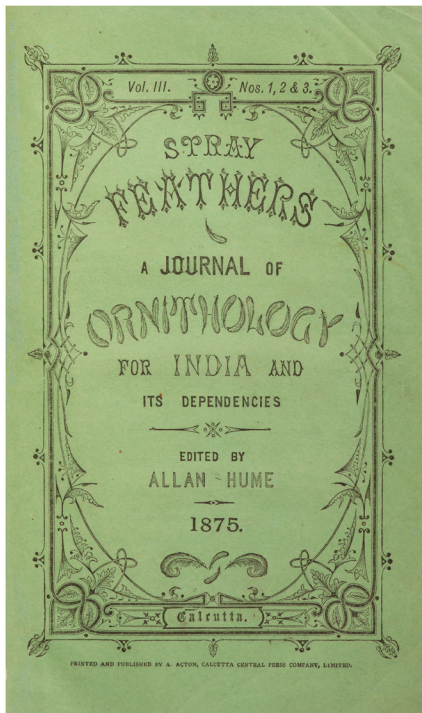
<sup>34</sup> Spelling: *Malacocircus*

<sup>35</sup> Cites from the *Madras Journal of Literature and Science* 13: 133 (1844). But see Pittie & Dickinson (2013).

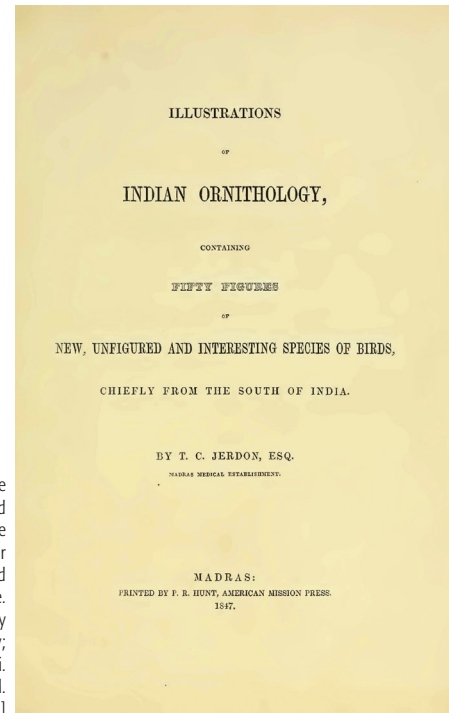
<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

<sup>38</sup> Derived from the made-up copy in The Asiatic Society of Mumbai.



53. Green paper wrapper of *Stray Feathers*. [Source: Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]



54. Fresh title page in Part IV, to be used as the main title page, after the four parts were bound into a single volume. [Source: Biodiversity Heritage Library; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461>.]

### *Oriolus Indicus*

*Oriolus Indicus* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, pp. C1 of text to pl. 15.

Greenway (1962: 128) listed it in the synonymy of *Oriolus chinensis diffusus* Sharpe, 1877, quoting a precise citation: '*Oriolus Indicus* "Brisson", Jerdon, 1845, *Illus. Indian Ornith.*, sig. c, pl. 15; not Brisson, 1760 = Daudin, 1802.'

= *Oriolus chinensis diffusus* Sharpe, 1877 [= Black-naped Oriole].

### *Malacocircus griseus*

*Malacocircus griseus* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, pl. 19, and p. N1.

*Malacocircus griseus* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, pl. 19, and p. N1.

Jerdon's *Malacocircus griseus* is preoccupied by *Turdus griseus* Gmelin (Ripley 1958: 7), which is listed, by Ticehurst (1939: 754), in the synonymy of *Turdoides affinis affinis* (Jerdon, 1845).

= *Turdoides affinis affinis* (Jerdon, 1845), *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, pp. N3–N4 of text to pl. 19. [=Yellow-billed Babbler.]

### *M.(alacocircus) Elliotti*

*M.(alacocircus) Elliotti* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. N4 of text to pl. 19.

*M.(alacocircus) Elliotti* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, p. O1 of text to pl. 19.

Deignan (1964: 339) listed it in the synonymy of *Turdoides affinis affinis* (Jerdon, 1845), citing: '[*Malacocircus*]. *Elliotti* Jerdon, 1845, *Illus. Indian Ornith.*, pt. 2, text to pl. 19...'

= *Turdoides affinis affinis* (Jerdon, 1845), *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, pp. N3–N4 of text to pl. 19. [=Yellow-billed Babbler.]

### *M.(alacocircus) Orissae*

*M.(alacocircus) Orissae* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, p. O2 of text to pl. 19.

*M.(alacocircus) Orissae* Jerdon, 1845, *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, p. O4 of text to pl. 19.

Ripley (1982: 347) lists this name as a race of *Turdoides striatus*, citing incorrectly, '*Turdoides striatus orissae* Jerdon [sic], 1847 [sic], *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, text to pl. 19...' Subsequently, Collar & Robson (2007: 220) treat this as synonymous with the nominate race.

= *Turdoides striata striata* (Dumont, 1823).

### *V. [inago] malabarica*

*V. [inago] malabarica* Jerdon, 1845 *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 4to, part 2, pp. E2 of text to pl. 21.

*V. [inago] malabarica* Jerdon, 1845 *Ill. Ind. Orn.*, 8vo, part 2, pp. E3 of text to pl. 21.

Baker (1930: 429) synonymized it with *Dendrophassa pompadora affinis* Jerdon, 1840, citing, '*Vinago malabarica* Jerdon, *Illustr. Ind. Orn.* Letterpress to pl.21 [sic], 1845.'

= *Treron pompadora affinis* (Jerdon, 1840), *Madras J. Lit. Sci.*, vol. XII no. 28 p. 13.

### Publication, binding, and citation

The letterpress sections, for the four parts, had different publishers, and were printed at three different presses in Madras (=Chennai), India, as follows:

Part I: J. B. Pharaoh, Madras.

Part II: R. W. Thorpe, Christian Knowledge Society's Press, Church Street, Vepery [Madras].

Part III: Reuben Twigg, Christian Knowledge Society's Press, Church Street, Vepery [Madras].

Part IV: P. R. Hunt, American Mission Press, Madras.



As was the fashion in the nineteenth century, works that ran into several parts were issued in wrappers. Green wrappers seemed to have found favour, as also used for the wrappers of A. O. Hume's *Stray Feathers* [53]. When the *Illustrations'* final part was published it contained a fresh title page [54] to be used when all the parts were bound together into one volume. The title on this page, as stated above, differed from the title on the w[1] of the parts.

Jerdon's *Illustrations* is remarkable, if not unique, for combining subscription, offering it through a bookseller, printing two versions, reprinting some parts, using different printers and plate sources, and offering plate variants.

Libraries, and bibliophiles, re-bound separate parts primarily because that was the norm, plus a bound volume also secured the parts. At this stage the binders invariably discarded original wrappers along with whatever was printed on them—occasionally leading to erroneous bibliographic interpretations (Pittie 2009; Dickinson 2012; Pittie & Dickinson 2013). For example, in this case, the four parts were published under the names of four different people, and printed at three separate presses: whereas the composite single volume is mostly cited (incorrectly) from the imprint on the title page of Part IV.

The importance of wrappers in revealing historical and bibliographical details, about such eccentric works as this one, cannot be denied. In my pursuit to locate the wrappers of the *Illustrations*, I contacted several libraries in the UK, and the USA, which turned up copies of all of them—thus making it possible to illustrate, and make the information they contained, available collectively, for the first time since Jerdon's day. The Wheldon & Wesley Card Index also highlights the rarity of wrappers. It might be a good idea for libraries to maintain an index of the wrappers of various works to assist future research. We can only be grateful for the meticulous book collector, or librarian, who instructed a binder to bind-in original wrappers, thus preserving all the bibliographic minutiae of an original copy, for posterity.

How then should a work like this be cited, given its unconventional publication history? Desirable would be, of course, to cite each part separately, especially if relevant to a species, or related detail, but if the collated volume was to be cited, it is best done thus:

Jerdon, T. C., 1843–1847. *Illustrations of Indian ornithology, containing fifty figures of new, unfigured or interesting species of birds, chiefly from the south of India*. Pp. vi, 160. 50 pll. Published by the author. Madras, India.

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Murray Bruce has been my guiding light for this paper. I tapped into his bibliographic knowledge, and his sagacity pointed me to the right sources. This work would have been the poorer without his committed guidance. It would also not have been possible without the ready assistance of librarians from several libraries across the world, by way of sharing valuable information, and papers, and other people who readily assisted me whenever I approached them for clarifications, and opinions, and I acknowledge my gratitude to them here: Maya Avasia (Librarian, The Asiatic Society of Mumbai), Vispi Balaporia (Honorary Secretary, The Asiatic Society of Mumbai), Michael Brooke (Strickland Curator of Ornithology, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, UK), Sqn Ldr Rana T. S. Chinna (Retd), Karen S. Cook (Special Collections Librarian, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, Kansas), Paul Martyn Cooper (Special Collections Librarian, Library and Archives, Natural History Museum), Edward C. Dickinson, Jennifer Ebrely (Junior Cataloguer, Book & Manuscript Department, Bonhams), Hein van Grouw (Senior Curator, Bird Group, Dept. of Life Sciences, The Natural History Museum, Tring), Col. Rohit Gupta, Alison Harding (Assistant Librarian,

Ornithology & Rothschild Libraries, Natural History Museum at Tring), Praveen J., Suresh Jones, Mathew Lowe (Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, UK), Eleanor Maclean (retired Senior Librarian, McGill University), Henry Noltie (The Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh), Storrs Olson (Curator Emeritus, Smithsonian Institution), Leslie K. Overstreet (Curator of Natural-History Rare Books, Smithsonian Libraries), Ambareesh Pittie, Robert Prys-Jones, Suhel Quader, Asad R. Rahmani, Ismail Shariff, Lieut Gen. (Retd) Baljit Singh, Laxminarayan Shyamal, Claire Spottiswoode (University of Cambridge, UK), Samuel Sukumar, Alex Tomkins (Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, UK), and A. J. Victor (Supervisor–Rare Books, The Asiatic Society of Mumbai).

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## Appendix 1

### Bibliographic collation of the two editions—4to, and 8vo.

The printing of Jerdon's *Illustrations* was unique in several ways. It must also be realised, that some of its plates were lithographed and printed in England, before being shipped to India to be bound with the letterpress, and any lithographs made in India. This would have resulted in the disruption of timetables, and also limited the number of copies that could be made up.

I have inserted abbreviations for plates that are recto/verso, and in the signatures of the gatherings, an unusual practice necessitated for this irregularly paginated work (in which most plates are verso, but some are recto), and to illustrate the extent of the letterpress in the two editions. Each part is divided into two sections, one for each edition. Each of these sections begins with a citation of the work, followed by a detailed collation.

Part I	<p>Jerdon, T. C., 1843. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. 1st ed. 4to. Madras: J. B. Pharaoh. Vol. I of IV vols. 24 ll., pll., I–XII (col.) (3 November 1843).</p> <p><b>4to</b> (24.5 x 32 cm); w[1] (green paper) with tit. (Text within double-ruled border with decorative fleurons; Conts., pll. I–XII; dt., 1843.); 1 pr. l. (unnum., Introductory notice, dt., 'Nellore: November 3d, 1843.'; Letterpress on w[1]; w[2] blank); pl. I<sup>v</sup>, A–B<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 7 pp.; p. 8 blank), pl. II<sup>v</sup>, C<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), pl. III<sup>v</sup>, D<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), pl. IV<sup>v</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. V<sup>v</sup>, F<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. VI<sup>v</sup>, [F<sup>2/2</sup>] (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. VII<sup>v</sup>, G<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. VIII<sup>v</sup>, H<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. IX<sup>v</sup>, [H<sup>2/2</sup>] (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. X<sup>v</sup>, I<sup>1/2</sup> 39 (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XI<sup>v</sup>, [I<sup>2/2</sup>] (Letterpress on 2 pp.), J<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XII<sup>v</sup>, J<sup>2/2</sup> (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), K<sup>2</sup> 40 (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), Addendum 1 l., unnum.; w[4] (green paper) with prospectus, 'Price to subscribers' of Octavo, and Quarto sizes, 'List of subscribers' (182 names; several ordering multiple copies, resulting in a print run of at least 216), and a note 'N. B.—Only 8<sup>vo</sup>. Copies are now procurable, all the 4<sup>to</sup>. ones struck off having been subscribed for'; head-edge stained red. [Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]</p> <p>Reprinted [March] 1845, based on wrappers (different from 1843) that are in the Tweeddale Library. Printed by R. W. Thorpe, Christian Knowledge Society's Press, Church Street—Vepery.</p>
	<p>Jerdon, T. C., 1843. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. 1st ed. 8vo. Madras: J. B. Pharaoh. Vol. I of IV vols. Pp. i–ii, 23 ll., pll., I–XII (col.) (3 November 1843).</p> <p><b>8vo</b> (16.5 x 25 cm); w[1] (green paper) with tit. (Text within double-ruled border with decorative fleurons; Conts., pll. I–XII; dt., 1843.); Pp. i–ii (Introductory notice, dated, 'Nellore: November 3d, 1843.'; Letterpress on 2 pp.); w[2] blank; pl. I<sup>v</sup>, A<sup>4</sup> (Letterpress on 8 pp.), pl. II<sup>v</sup>, B<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. III<sup>v</sup>, [B<sup>2/2</sup>] (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), pl. IV<sup>v</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. V<sup>v</sup>, F<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. VI<sup>v</sup>, [F<sup>2/2</sup>] (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. VII<sup>v</sup>, G<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. VIII<sup>v</sup>, H<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. IX<sup>v</sup>, [H<sup>2/2</sup>] (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. X<sup>v</sup>, I<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XI<sup>v</sup>, [I<sup>2/2</sup>], J<sup>1–2/3</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), pl. XII<sup>v</sup>, J<sup>3/3</sup>, K<sup>2</sup> 41 (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), Addendum 1 l., unnum.; Back wrapper (green paper) with letterpress on w[3, 4]: prospectus, 'Price to subscribers' of Octavo, and Quarto sizes, 'List of subscribers' (182 names; several ordering multiple copies, resulting in a print run of at least 216), and a note 'N. B.—Only 8<sup>vo</sup>. Copies are now procurable, all the 4<sup>to</sup>. ones struck off having been subscribed for'; head-edge stained red. [Ex-libris The Asiatic Society of Bombay: 598.2954 JER/ILL 39860.]</p>

39 Traditionally, the signatures 'I', and 'J', are dropped in the conventional sequence of signatures. They are present in this unconventional work.

40 The volume uploaded on the website of the Biodiversity Library (<http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461>) has missed out one leaf, signed 'K', in digitizing, thus making it incomplete, as uploaded. The original, in the Smithsonian Libraries, does have the 'K' signature (Leslie K. Overstreet, in *lit.*, e-mail dated 22 June 2016).

41 The volume uploaded on the website of the Biodiversity Library (<http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461>) does not have this signature, the leaves being left unnumbered.

Part II	<p>Jerdon, T. C., 1845. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. Church Street, Vepery, India: R. W. Thorpe, Christian Knowledge Society's Press, Church Street–Vepery. 4to. Vol. II of IV vols. Pp. 25 ll., Pll. XIII–XXV (col.) (March 1845).</p> <p><b>4to</b> (24.5 x 32 cm); w[1] (green paper) with tit. (Text within double-ruled border with decorative fleurons); Contents, plates XIII–XXV; dt., March–1845.; w[2] blank; pl. XIII<sup>v</sup>, A (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XIV<sup>v</sup>, H (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XV<sup>v</sup>, C<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), pl. XVI<sup>v</sup>, M (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XVII<sup>v</sup>, D (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XVIII<sup>v</sup>, K (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XIX<sup>v</sup>, N–O<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 8 pp.), pl. XX<sup>v</sup>, L (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXI<sup>v</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), pl. XXII<sup>v</sup>, I (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXIII<sup>v</sup>, G (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXIV<sup>v</sup>, F<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. XXV<sup>v</sup>, B (Letterpress on 2 pp.); w[3] blank; w[4] (green paper) with prospectus, 'Price to subscribers' of Octavo, and Quarto sizes, 'List of additional subscribers' in four columns (47 names), 'notice to subscribers.' [head-edge stained red?].</p> <p>[Source: <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461">http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461</a>.]</p> <p>Jerdon, T. C., 1845. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. Church Street, Vepery, India: R. W. Thorpe, Christian Knowledge Society's Press, Church Street–Vepery. 8vo. Vol. II of IV vols. Pp. 25 ll., Pll. XIII–XXV (col.) (March 1845).</p> <p><b>8vo</b> (16.5 x 25 cm); w[1] (green paper) with tit. (Text within decorative fleurons and single-ruled border; Conts., pll. XIII–XXV; dt., March–1845; w[2], notice to subscribers); pl. XIII<sup>v</sup>, A<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), pl. XIV<sup>v</sup>, H (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XV<sup>v</sup>, C<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. XVI<sup>v</sup>, M (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XVII<sup>v</sup>, D<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.), pl. XVIII<sup>v</sup>, K<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.), pl. XIX<sup>v</sup>, N–O<sup>2</sup>, (Letterpress on 10 pp.), P, pl. XX<sup>v</sup>, L (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXI<sup>v</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.), pl. XXII<sup>v</sup>, I (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXIII<sup>v</sup>, G<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.), pl. XXIV<sup>v</sup>, F<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. XXV<sup>v</sup>, B<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 3 pp.); w[3] blank; w[4] (green paper) with prospectus, 'Price to subscribers' of Octavo, and Quarto sizes, 'List of additional subscribers' in two columns (47 names). Head-edge stained red.</p> <p>[Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]</p>
Part III	<p>Jerdon, T. C., 1846. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. Church Street, Vepery, India: Reuben Twigg, Christian Knowledge Society's Press. Vol. III of IV vols. 4to. Pp. 16 ll., pll. XXVI–XL (col.) (April 1846).</p> <p><b>4to</b> (24.5 x 32 cm); w[1] (green paper) with tit. (Text within double-ruled border with decorative fleurons); Conts., pll. XXVI–XL; dt., April, 1846.; w[2] blank; pl. XXVI<sup>v</sup>, A<sup>1</sup>–2 (p. numbered '2' in top left hand corner of verso; Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXVII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXVIII<sup>v</sup> (caption pasted over with cancel slip, 'FALCO PEREGRINATOR'), 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXIX<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXX<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXI<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXIII<sup>v</sup>, 2 ll., unnum., (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. XXXIV<sup>v</sup> (caption pasted over with cancel slip, 'ANAS CARYOPHYLLACEA'), 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXV<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXVI<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXVII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXVIII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), XXXIX<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), XL<sup>v</sup> (pl., no., pasted over with cancel slip, 'Plate XL'), 1 l., unnum. (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank); w[3] (green paper), advertisement; w[4], title, author, 'Price to subscribers' of Octavo, and Quarto sizes, 'List of additional subscribers' in four columns (21 names). [head-edge stained red?].</p> <p>[Source: <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461">http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461</a>.]</p> <p>Jerdon, T. C., 1846. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. Church Street, Vepery, India: Reuben Twigg, Christian Knowledge Society's Press. Vol. III of IV vols. 8vo. Pp. 20 leaves, plates XXVI–XL (col.) (April 1846).</p> <p><b>8vo</b> (16.5 x 25 cm); w[1] (green paper) with tit. (text within decorative fleurons and single-ruled border; Conts., pll. XXVI–XL; dt., April, 1846.); w[2] blank; pl. XXVI<sup>v</sup>, pp. [1]–2 (no signature on r; p. numbered '2' in top left hand corner of verso; Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXVII<sup>v</sup>, pp. [3]–4 (no signature on r; p. numbered '4' in top left hand corner of verso; Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXVIII<sup>v</sup> (pl., tit., pasted over with paper, 'FALCO PEREGRINATOR'), pp. [5]–6 (no signature on r; p. numbered '6' in top left hand corner of verso; Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXIX<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXX<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXXI<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXXII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXIII<sup>v</sup>, 4 ll., unnum., (Letterpress on 8 pp.), pl. XXXIV<sup>v</sup> (pl., tit., pasted over with cancel slip, 'ANAS CARYOPHYLLACEA'), 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXXV<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XXXVI<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXVII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank), pl. XXXVIII<sup>v</sup>, 2 ll., unnum., (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank), XXXIX<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), XL<sup>v</sup> (pl., no., pasted over with cancel slip, 'Plate XL'), 2 ll., unnum., (Letterpress on 3 pp.; p. 4 blank); w[3], advertisement; w[4], title, author, and price, and a 'List of additional subscribers' (in three columns). Notice to subscribers. head-edge stained red.</p> <p>[Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]</p>



Part IV	<p>Jerdon, T. C., 1847. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. Madras: P. R. Hunt, American Mission Press. 4to. Vol. IV of IV vols. Pp. 17 ll., pll., XLI–L (col.).</p> <p><b>4to</b> (24.5 x 32 cm); [w[1] (green paper) with tit. (Text within double-ruled border with decorative fleurons); Contents, plates 41–50; dt., 1847.); w[2] blank; 1 pr. l. (unnum., Introduction, undated; letterpress on recto; verso blank); pl. XLI<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.; verso blank), pl. XLII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLIII<sup>v</sup>, 2 ll., unnum., (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. XLIV<sup>v</sup>, C<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLV<sup>v</sup>, [C<sup>2/2</sup>] (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLVI<sup>v</sup>, D<sup>1/4</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLVII<sup>v</sup>, pl. XLVIII<sup>v</sup>, D* (Letterpress on 1 p.; verso blank), D<sup>2/4</sup> (Letterpress on 1 p., verso blank), pl. XLIX<sup>v</sup> (pl., no., pasted over with cancel slip, 'Plate XLIX'), pl. L<sup>v</sup>, (pl., no., pasted over with cancel slip, 'Plate L'), D<sup>3/4</sup>–D<sup>4/4</sup>, (Letterpress on 1 p.; verso blank), 1 l. unnum., (classified index of contents; letterpress on recto; verso blank); w[3] and w[4] blank; [head-edge stained red?].</p> <p>[Source: <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461">http://dx.doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.53461</a>.]</p>
	<p>Jerdon, T. C., 1847. <i>Illustrations of Indian ornithology</i>. Madras: P. R. Hunt, American Mission Press. 8vo. Vol. IV of IV vols. Pp. 11 ll., pll., XLI–L (col.).</p> <p><b>8vo</b> (16.5 x 25 cm); w[1] (green paper) with tit. (text within decorative fleurons border; Conts., pll., 41–50; dt., 1847.); 1 l., (Intro.; Letterpress on recto; verso blank)<sup>42</sup>, w[2] blank; pl. XLI<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLII<sup>v</sup>, 1 l., unnum., (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLIII<sup>v</sup>, B<sup>2</sup> (Letterpress on 4 pp.), pl. XLIV<sup>v</sup>, C<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLV<sup>v</sup>, C<sup>2/2</sup>, (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLVI<sup>v</sup>, D<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLVII<sup>v</sup>, pl. XLVIII<sup>v</sup>, D<sup>2/2</sup>, (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. XLIX<sup>v</sup>, E<sup>1/2</sup> (Letterpress on 2 pp.), pl. L<sup>v</sup>, E<sup>2/2</sup>, (Letterpress on 1 p.; p. 2 blank); w[3] and w[4] blank; head-edge stained red.</p> <p>[Ex-libris Aasheesh Pittie.]</p>
<p><b>Abbreviations:</b> conts.=contents; dt.=date/dated; Intro.=introduction; l./ll.=leaf/leaves [a single sheet comprising two pages, i.e., a recto, and a verso]; p./pp.=page/s [the two sides of a leaf/single sheet]; pl./pll.=plate/s; pr.=preliminary; r=recto; tit.=title; to=quarto; unnum.=un-numbered; v=verso; vo=octavo; vol/s.=volume/s.</p>	
<p>Collation of the composite quarto volume, with all four parts:          "This book is unpaginated and has irregular signatures. There are 72 printed leaves and I believe it is complete as follows: Four preliminary leaves (title, introductory notice [dated Nov 3d, 1843], introduction and contents). A–K<sup>2</sup> (including both I and J for a total of 22 ll), <sup>2</sup>A, <sup>2</sup>H, <sup>2</sup>C<sup>2</sup>, M, <sup>2</sup>D, <sup>2</sup>K, N–O<sup>2</sup>, L, <sup>2</sup>E<sup>2</sup>, <sup>2</sup>I, <sup>2</sup>G, <sup>2</sup>F<sup>2</sup>, <sup>2</sup>B, <sup>3</sup>A, 20 undesignated leaves, <sup>3</sup>C<sup>2</sup>, D, D*, two undesignated leaves. All these non-preliminary leaves contain text for the 50 species save the last leaf which is a "classified index of contents".          [Source: <a href="https://www.amherst.edu/library/archives/holdings/soffer/j#a16">https://www.amherst.edu/library/archives/holdings/soffer/j#a16</a>.]</p>	
<p><b>Recommended citation for the collated, single volume</b>          Jerdon, T. C., 1843–1847. <i>Illustrations of Indian Ornithology, containing fifty figures of new, unfigured or interesting species of birds, chiefly from the south of India</i>. Pp. vi, 160. 50 pll. Published by the author. Madras, India.</p>	

## Appendix 2

The bibliographic pagination of wrappers, shown below, follows Williams (2005: 38).

w[1] = title page (recto, or outer page, of front wrapper);

w[2] = verso (inner page) of front wrapper;

w[3] = recto (inner page) of back wrapper;

w[4] = verso (outer page) of back wrapper.

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42. There should be 3 ll., (if the example of 8vo is considered, and since I do have the 'Introduction'), with a title page (composite for all the four parts), and a contents page listing all fifty taxa.